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METHODISM IN THE MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE

Methodism
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Mississippi Conference

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By W. B. JONES

Fifteen Years Secretary of the Conference
Fifty Years Pastor and Presiding Elder

Written at the request of the Conference, and continuing the history of the Mississippi Conference as written by John G. Jones and J. B. Cain.

THE HAWKINS FOUNDATION
Mississippi Conference Historical Society
Mississippi Methodist Headquarters
Millsaps Building
Jackson, Mississippi

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THE HAWKINS FOUNDATION
MISSISSIPPI ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

NASHVILLE, TENN.: THE PARTHENON PRESS

This volume is the third publication of the

Hawkins Foundation

established in 1937 by George L. Hawkins, Methodist Layman of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, in honor of his brother, the Rev. Henry Gabriel Hawkins of the Mississippi Annual Conference, who for many years was the president of the Conference Historical Society and an acknowledged leader in historical matters and interests. Both of these men have gone to their eternal reward since the printing of the last volume of Conference history and it is appropriate that we dedicate this volume to them.

The members of the Foundation are the Revs. Geo. H. Jones, President; W. B. Jones, Treasurer; J. B. Cain, C. C. Clark, and J. L. Neill of the Mississippi Conference.

The Foundation cooperates with the Historical Society of the Mississippi Annual Conference. This Society is composed of all of the itinerant ministers of the Conference, and at the present time has for its President a layman, J. P. Stafford, who is also the Conference Lay Leader.

The Foundation was established by the donor paying for the printing of the first publication, "Methodism in Natchez," by H. G. Hawkins.

Through the efforts of the members of the Foundation, and the cooperation of District Superintendents, pastors, and interested laymen, additional funds have been contributed to allow this volume to go to press without financial encumbrance. It is with pleasure that we make various acknowledgments on these next few pages, and that we print the names of the advance subscribers in a closing section of the book. For their interest and aid we sincerely thank them.

A volume of this size, with so many names and dates, requires much typing and re-typing in its preparation, and great care must be taken for the sake of accuracy. Much valuable help in this respect has been rendered by Mrs. M. E. Herring and Mrs. H. L. Stennett of Canton, Miss., and Mrs. A. J. Hargrave of Nashville, Tenn. To them we are greatly indebted.

District Superintendents

Our hearty thanks are due those who have been District Superintendents in the Mississippi Conference since 1942 when this project was initiated. All have been cooperative and we are grateful to them.

Brookhaven District—R. H. Clegg, V. R. Landrum, L. D. Haughton
Hattiesburg District—B. L. Sutherland, J. D. Slay
Jackson District —Otto Porter, B. M. Hunt
Meridian District —J. L. Neill, C. H. Gunn, J. W. Leggett, Jr.
Seashore District —J. F. Campbell, J. L. Neill, O. H. Scott
Vicksburg District —V. R. Landrum, O. S. Lewis, T. O. Prewitt

The present District Superintendents have been especially helpful during the last two years, and without their help this history could not have been published.

Through the splendid cooperation of J. D. Slay, District Superintendent, and B. M. Stevens, District Lay Leader, the Hattiesburg District is furnishing one or more copies of this book to every charge.

Superannuates Honored

A copy of this book is being sent complimentary to each of the retired ministers of the Mississippi Conference. Among those who have made this possible are the following:

Dr. C. B. Alford, Columbia
F. W. Atkinson, Vicksburg
T. E. Corley, Columbia
Mrs. M. E. Herring, Canton
W. L. Jolly, Laurel
R. T. Liddell, Fayette
Norman Lovett, Hattiesburg
H. Ogden, Hattiesburg
Mrs. D. W. Slay, Purvis
J. T. Wallace, Hattiesburg

These retired ministers, whose names are listed on page xii of this book, have made a valuable contribution to Mississippi Methodism and to the Kingdom of our Christ. Some of them came into our Conference during the period covered by this volume, and probably all of them were personally acquainted with many of the heroes of the cross listed within these pages. They themselves supplied much of the heroic action that will be recorded in our next volume of Conference history.

Sponsoring Churches

A number of churches have placed as much as $50.00 into the funds for publishing this volume, either from the church treasury, or through friends, or from sufficient individual advance subscriptions, and thus we list them as Sponsoring Churches and give the year each of them was organized, according to best information obtainable.

Washington Methodist Church	(1799)
Kingston Methodist Church	(1800)
Jefferson Street, Natchez	(1807)
Columbia Methodist Church	(1823)
Crawford Street, Vicksburg	(1834)
Canton Methodist Church	(1836)
Galloway Memorial, Jackson	(1836)
Philadelphia Methodist Church	(1837)
Red Hill Methodist Church	(1837)
Pearl River Methodist Church	(1840)
Waynesboro Methodist Church	(1860)
Hazlehurst Methodist Church	(1860)
Crystal Springs Methodist Church	(1861)
Capitol Street, Jackson	(1883)
Fifth Street, Meridian	(1887)
Kreole Methodist Church	(1924)

Jefferson Street, Crawford Street, Galloway Memorial, Capitol Street, and Fifth Street Churches were not organized under their present names.

Cooperating Churches

Every church which has a pastor or layman who has purchased or will purchase a copy of this book is really a cooperating church. But in a special way those churches which have sent in advance contributions for publication, without listing the names of individual subscribers, are listed as cooperating churches in the back of the book.

Individuals Honored

Several persons have made contributions in memory of loved ones who lived and labored during at least some part of the period covered by this volume. These persons include W. M. Drake of Church Hill; Mrs. Mamie Fairley Wilson of Hazlehurst; Rev. B. M. Hunt, Superintendent of the Jackson District; Rev. J. B. Cain of Canton; Mrs. H. G. Hawkins of Canton, in whose husband's honor the Hawkins Foundation was established; Hawkins Golden, a prominent attorney of Dallas, Texas, and son of Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Hawkins (J. J.) Golden; and W. B. Jones, the author himself who has made the largest contribution of all. We give the names of the honorees on separate pages.

The Hawkins Family

Rev. Gabriel Hawkins, M. D. 1827-1885
Mrs. Martha Elizabeth Lawrence Hawkins 1835-1929
(*See pages 275, 276*)

Children of Gabriel and Martha Elizabeth Hawkins

George Lawrence Hawkins 1859-1941

Born in Sumter County, Alabama, Oct. 27, 1859; Baptized by the Rev. Josiah Barker, March 4, 1860; A life-long Methodist and prominent layman; Established the Hawkins Foundation in honor of his brother, Henry Gabriel Hawkins; Departed this life at Hattiesburg, Miss., March 13, 1941; Buried at Hattiesburg.

Henry Gabriel Hawkins 1866-1939

Born in Choctaw County, Alabama, October 5, 1866; Baptized in infancy by Rev. A. H. Mitchell; Missionary to China—Pastor—College President—Presiding Elder—Historian; Honoree of the Hawkins Foundation; Married Miss Annie Betts Galloway, Oct. 18, 1899; Translated at Canton, Miss., Oct. 13, 1939; Buried at Canton.

Winchester Coke Hawkins 1868-1918

Born in Pickens County, Alabama, March 21, 1868; Baptized by Rev. T. Y. Ramsey at Andrew Chapel, Aug. 30, 1868; Married Miss Lilly Capers in August 1890; A layman; Departed this life, Aug. 16, 1918; Buried at Hattiesburg.

Ira Francis Hawkins

An honored superannuate of the North Alabama Conference. One-time member of the Mississippi Conference.

Mary Elizabeth Hawkins 1872-1947

Born at Havana, Alabama, on January 27, 1872; Baptized by the Rev. A. H. Mitchell on March 18, 1872; Married the Rev. John Jay Golden of the Mississippi Conference—Later of the New Mexico Conference; Departed this life at Dallas, Texas, Nov. 23, 1947.

Louisa Travis (or Lula) Hawkins 1874-1943

Born at Havana, Alabama, on April 3, 1874; Baptized by the Rev. A. H. Mitchell at Havana, October 9, 1874; Married the Rev. W. B. Jones, of the Mississippi Conference, Sept. 18, 1902; Departed this life at Logtown, Miss., Jan. 19, 1943; Buried at Meridian.

Mattie Bell Hawkins

Married Seth L. Heidelberg of Hattiesburg, Miss.; Member of Main Street Methodist Church where her late husband was a steward and chairman of building and parsonage committee.

HONOREES

The following persons were loyal Methodists who, with a few exceptions, lived during the period of this book, and are remembered or honored with love and appreciation by those who have helped to have the book published:

Rev. John Russell Lambuth	1801-1864
Mrs. Nancy Kirkpatrick Lambuth	-1847
Samuel Rosamond Weems	1814-1915
Willis Doris Stokes	1840-1921
Mrs. Mary Cross Harrell	1840-1925
Mrs. Susan P. H. (Magruder) Drake	1811-1892
Rev. James Perry Drake	1847-1901
Mrs. Clara Bell (Wailes) Drake	1850-1927
William Yancy Cain	1859-1934
Mrs. Nettie Fletcher Cain	1859-1948
Hardy Jasper Wilson	1871-1948
Miss Nell Davis Drake	1875-1951
Robert E. L. Weems	1867-1937
William Melvin Cain	1886-1950
Mrs. Susie Brunner Hunt	1864-1938
Rev. Rolfe Hunt, D. D.	1865-
Rev. Ransom J. Jones, Sr.	1808-1872
Rev. John Jay Golden	1870-1928
Rev. James G. Galloway	1861-1947
Rev. Kenneth A. Jones	1835-1910
Rev. Ransom J. Jones, Jr.	1837-1901
George Lawrence Hawkins	1859-1941
Rev. Henry Gabriel Hawkins	1866-1939

VETERANS OF THE CROSS

Superannuate Ministers, Mississippi Conference
June 20, 1951

Lucius E. Alford
Fred L. Applewhite
William F. Baggett
Walter L. Blackwell
Andrew M. Broadfoot
Delos H. Cassels
Victor G. Clifford
James M. Corley
Charles W. Crisler
William J. Dawson
Charles E. Downer
John D. Ellis
James E. J. Ferguson
Wiley J. Ferguson
Henry A. Gatlin
J. Howard Grice
Bythel Z. Herrington
Francis M. Herrington
Rolfe Hunt
Fleet J. Jones
William B. Jones
Martin Kinsey
E. Marshall Lane
Albert J. Leggett
Henry J. Maddox
John F. McClellan
George P. McKeown
H. Jack Moore
William W. Murray
Charles T. Noble
Algie S. Oliver
Thomas J. O'Neil
Fletcher B. Ormond
Martin W. Porter
John W. Price
Robert A. Sibley, Jr.
Alvin A. Simms
Young A. Smith
Lemuel J. Snelgrove
James B. Stringer
George H. Thompson
David W. Ulmer
Percy Vaughan
Dennis E. Vickers
Warren J. Walters
James T. Weems
Hilary S. Westbrook
William M. Williams
Thomas B. Winstead
Henry A. Wood
J. E. Yawn
Dan P. Yeager

A PERSONAL WORD

The Mississippi Conference requested me, without consultation, to prepare a volume of the history of the Conference. This was begun on my 75th birthday, and is now ready to print. It has been a laborious, but pleasant task. Material was not easy to find, but we endeavored to labor industriously, and we believe that we are presenting in these pages facts about churches and persons which are worthy of being preserved.

We made numerous trips to New Orleans over a period of years and personally went through the files of every issue of *The New Orleans Christian Advocate* that was printed during the years covered by this volume. For this privilege we are indebted to W. L. Duren, the editor of that great organ which since then has been discontinued. We were able to obtain many valuable facts from its faded pages.

We are indebted to J. B. Cain and George H. Jones for their very valuable help in many ways, and our thanks are extended to them for adding material, editing, arranging, encouraging, securing means to make it possible to bring the book from the press.

The members of the Hawkins Foundation have been helpful and interested in carrying forward the work of preparation, as well as the Mississippi Conference Historical Society; the Bishop, Marvin A. Franklin, the District Superintendents, the Pastors, Church Members have made valuable contributions toward the production of the History. To the various churches of the Conference that have assisted, and to all others we express our appreciation.

The heart of this writer loves the Mississippi Conference. He has given fifty years of service to it, gladly striving to perform every assigned duty. His father traveled on horseback from near Birmingham to Woodville to join it in 1831, and there has not been a year since then that a close kinsman of the writer, father, brothers, or the writer himself, has not served it in some capacity. It is the writer's prayer that, when his pen is still and his tongue is silent, his children and children's children will carry on in the Master's service in the Mississippi Conference.

Logtown, Mississippi W. B. Jones

The wife of W. B. Jones, author of this volume, was Louisa Travis Hawkins. She was affectionately known as Lula and was translated in 1943. In her memory the author requests that the names of their children be recorded. They are Grace Elizabeth Jones, now Mrs. Grover C. Speed, Saucier, Miss.; George Hawkins Jones, of the Mississippi Conference; Ransom Julaney Jones, M. D., Kinston, N. C.; Henry Mouzon Jones, Jackson, Miss.; and Warren Candler Jones, M. D., Forest, Miss.

The four children of the Rev. John Jay Golden and Mrs. Mary Hawkins Golden are: Mrs. Eloise Golden (John H.) Bennett, Sidney, Australia; and Hawkins Golden, Ira L. Golden, and George R. Golden, all of Dallas, Texas.

FOREWORD

This volume records the sacred history of Mississippi Methodism. For a hundred fifty years, the Methodist Church has borne her sure witness of the saving grace of the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ. From a small and seemingly incidental beginning in 1799 with Tobias Gibson, the trail of the itinerant swept out in ever-widening circles until a new empire of faith was established in all the Southwest. This History of Methodism in Mississippi records the triumphs and victories of these soldiers of the cross as they marched from conquest to conquest.

Illustrious names and names obscure adorn its pages. Brush-arbors, chapels, humble meeting houses, campgrounds, and stately churches all figure in the unfolding story. The Church gathered as ripened grain for the house of God the rich and poor, the learned and illiterate, the white, the Negro, and the Indian, and the record of it all is faithfully preserved.

It is fitting that this History of Mississippi Methodism be published now. It will serve to bring before the hearts of Methodists today the great cloud of witnesses of the honored past and call us to make the future indebted to us as they have placed us under everlasting obligation to them.

We hail the past, but we dedicate ourselves to the writing of new chapters. Upon a foundation deep and wide we would build today a superstructure that will be like the shadow of a great rock in a weary land to which the generations to come will find their way as they search for comfort, light, and salvation.

Marvin A. Franklin
Bishop, The Methodist Church

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CHAPTER I

1870

"And are we yet alive,
And see each other's face?
Glory and praise to Jesus give,
For His redeeming grace."

This song of Charles Wesley's has been used to open many a Methodist Annual Conference. With real fervor the weather-beaten itinerants and soldiers of the cross could continue their song:

"What troubles have we seen,
What conflicts have we passed!"

and they could reflect on the many changes that had been made during the twelve long months since they assembled last in Annual Conference session, but their griefs and their triumphs they could carry to the One "who changest not."

This is a changing world. It seems that change is written on the trestle-board of the universe. History is the story of change. Every Annual Conference year witnesses change—many changes, in progress, growth, sickness, grief, death, birth, new birth, triumph—changes in everything except the unchangeable love of God and of His Son who is "the same yesterday, today, and forever."

This volume is a continuation of the story of the Mississippi Conference, in line of succession with John G. Jones' two volumes on *Methodism in Mississippi* and J. B. Cain's *Methodism in the Mississippi Conference.* It takes up where the latter volume leaves off—with the General Conference of 1870 which created the North Mississippi Conference.

Changes in Conference Boundaries

Meeting in May of this year, the General Conference changed the boundaries of the Annual Conferences in both Alabama and Mississippi. In Alabama the Mobile Conference had comprised, roughly speaking, the southern half of Alabama and the eastern tier of counties in southern Mississippi. The Montgomery Conference had comprised north Alabama and a strip of north Misssissippi. The Mississippi Conference had comprised Louisiana east of the Mississippi River, and all of Mississippi as far north as Starkville and Greenville, except the tier of counties that was in the Mobile and Montgomery Conferences. The rest of Mississippi was in the Memphis Conference.

The General Conference changed the name of the Mobile Conference to the Alabama Conference and gave its Mississippi territory to the Mississippi Conference. It changed the name of the Montgomery Conference to the North Alabama Conference and gave its Mississippi territory to the North Mississippi Conference. Likewise the North Mississippi Conference got some territory from the Memphis Conference and was made to consist of all of Mississippi that is north of Kemper, Neshoba, Leake, Madison, Yazoo, Sharkey, and Issaquena counties.

In the formation of these new Conferences in the middle of the Annual Conference year, the pastors and presiding elders remained where they were until the first sessions of the new Conferences which embraced the territory in which they were located. Then each one reported to his new Conference, if indeed it was new, and automatically became a member of it.

To the North Mississippi Conference

Thus it was in mid-year that the Mississippi Conference lost to the North Mississippi Conference a large portion of its territory. The charges in this territory that went to the North Mississippi Conference were Lexington, Durant, Black Hawk, Carrolton, Greenwood and McNutt, and Bear Creek and Roebuck Mission from the former Yazoo District; Greenville Station, Upper Deer Creek, Bolivar, Lake Lee and Leota, and Sunflower from the former Greenville District; and Starkville and Pierce Chapel, Whitefield, Louisville, Plattsburg Mission, French Camps, Line Creek, Winona, Vaiden, Kosciusko, and Belle Fontaine from the former Starkville District.

Along with these charges the men serving them became members automatically of the North Mississippi Conference. This took the following ministers from the Mississippi Conference: Wm. P. Barton, Ransom J. Jones, Jr., Joseph D. Newsom, Asbury R. Hines, Charles B. Galloway, Hiniard Townsend, Humphrey Williamson, Wm. Winans Drake, Wm. T. J. Sullivan, Jacob D. Murff, Richard H. Herbert, Robert A. Davis, Robert B. Seeders, Kenneth A. Jones, James O. Woodward, Jas. G. Carlisle, Wm. R. Rainey, Geo. D. Wade, Thomas C. Parrish, Pinckney A. Johnston, and Thomas W. Castle.

The only superannuate to fall into North Mississippi territory was the veteran John Ira Ellis Byrd who was a member of the famous first Mississippi Conference in 1813 and had been superannuated since 1857.

To partially offset this loss of 21 charges (which had reported a total of 4,359 members in 1869—more than one-fourth of the Conference membership), the eastern tier of south Mississippi counties (the present Kemper, Lauderdale, Clarke, Wayne, Green George, and Jackson counties) which had been placed in the Alabama Conference at its formation in 1832, were given back to the Mississippi Conference.

This territory, which had been in the Meridian and Mobile districts of the Mobile Conference, was reported statistically at the 1870 Mississippi Conference as the Meridian District with a total of 3,281 members, by charges as follows: Meridian Station, 205; Pierce's Springs, 169; Shubuta and Clarke, 1,000; Enterprise Station, 93; Enterprise Circuit, 348; East Pascagoula, 190; West Pascagoula, 140; Cuba, 140; Marion, 400; and DeKalb, 498.

The town of Enterprise had been quite flourishing, and had previously entertained a session of the Mobile Conference, but was now losing population to Meridian which was growing rapidly. The large Shubuta and Clarke circuit was divided at this Conference into two circuits: Clarke and Wayne. Toomsuba Mission was likewise set off from Marion circuit.

The preachers that came into the Mississippi Conference from the Alabama Conference were Joshua T. Heard, who was serving as presiding elder of the Meridian District, and J. C. C. Black, John C. Brogan, Wm. H. Leith, James Shanks, William Spillman, U. B. Phillips, A. J. Coleman, and Josiah Barker. The last two transferred back to their home Conference, now called Alabama. In addition to these Conference members, there were three local preachers serving as supplies in this new Mississippi Conference territory: J. M. Winbush, George Bancroft, and Irvin Roberts. The last two became quite useful in the Mississippi Conference.

The ten charges in this newly-acquired territory were all reported to the 1870 Annual Conference as the Meridian District. This district led all the districts in number of members, 3,281; in local preachers, 34; in Sunday Schools, 43; in Sunday School scholars, 1,811; in volumes in library, 4,476; in number of churches, 70; in "sittings," 13,675; and in parsonages, 4. The next largest districts in number of churches were Brandon and Brookhaven, with 38 each; and the next largest in number of Sunday Schools was Brookhaven, with 19.

The circuits in this territory were large: West Pascagoula and DeKalb had 11 churches each; Enterprise Circuit, and Shubuta and Clarke had 10 churches each; East Pascagoula and Marion, 9 each; Pierce's Springs, 5; and Cuba, 3; while there were two stations—Meridian Station and Enterprise Station. Most of these charges paid their pastors $400, $500, or $600. The lowest salary was at Pierce's Springs, $135; the two highest, Meridian Station and DeKalb, $900 each. These were the assessed salaries. No charge paid its assessment in full except Meridian Station. Cuba and Pierce's Springs were in Alabama, and became a part of the Alabama Conference.

Ulysses L. Thompson

Of the four preachers who died between the meeting of the General Conference in May and the Annual Conference in December, one of these, Ulysses L. Thompson, never really served in the Mississippi Conference at all. He was a young man, a member of the Alabama Conference, and was transferred with the territory of the eastern counties to the Mississippi Conference.

Richard H. Herbert

Richard H. Herbert was admitted into the Mississippi Conference in 1825 and appointed as junior preacher on the Conecuh circuit in Alabama. He spent one year on the Chickasawhay circuit in Mississippi, following which he was admitted into full connection at Washington, and ordained a deacon by Bishop Soule. Two years later he was ordained an elder by Bishop Roberts and given the local relation by the Conference.

At the first session of the original Alabama Conference, at Tuscaloosa, in November, 1832, he was readmitted and served for a number of years in the Conference, but later retired to the local ranks again. He entered the Mississippi Conference again in 1848, and was for six years on various charges, and was then in the local ranks for 15 years. Readmitted again in 1869, he was appointed to the Bolivar circuit, which he was serving when he died.

W. Winans Drake

William Winans Drake, presiding elder of the Greenville District, died on September 27, 1870. Greenville was a small district, with only seven charges, but in the space of six months the district lost its presiding elder and two pastors. Mr. Drake was really a member of the newly-formed North Mississippi Conference, but it did not meet before his death. Such, however, was the affection of the Mississippi Conference for him and his father's family that his name was referred to the committee on memoirs, was listed with those of the sainted dead, and his family became claimants on the funds of this Conference.

Winans Drake was born on the Magnolia Springs plantation in Jefferson county, Mississippi, November 12, 1843, the son of Dr. Benjamin M. Drake. He was converted early in life at a camp meeting at Spring Hill; a few years later, while a member of Bethel church, four miles east of Fayette, he was licensed to preach. In 1862 he was admitted on trial into the Conference, and was admitted into full connection and ordained deacon in 1865. Immediately upon being ordained elder in 1867, by Bishop Paine, he was appointed presiding elder of the Greenville District, where he remained till his death.

He was a student of Centenary College when the Civil War broke out, and that institution granted him a degree in 1868. After his death his wife and children moved to Jackson, La., where his sons later graduated from Centenary—B. M. Drake in 1886 and W. W. Drake, Jr., in 1888. Both of these sons for a short while were members of the Mississippi Conference. The latter was transferred to the Louisiana Conference where he ended his course in peace a few years ago, after having served in leading appointments, and also for a number of years as trustee of his alma mater. Benjamin M. Drake gave up the ministry for the teaching profession and spent the latter years of his life as an honored Christian layman and teacher.

B. B. Whittington

Burwell B. Whittington was born in Bullock county, Georgia, August 1, 1819, and died in Hinds county, Mississippi, in November, 1870. His family came to Mississippi when he was quite young. He was converted and joined the Methodist Church when about 20 years of age, and was soon licensed to preach.

In 1843 he joined the Alabama Conference. Six years were spent in that Conference, during which time he married. Two years were spent as a local preacher, after which he was readmitted into the Mississippi Conference, where he served till 1869, when he was forced by failing health to take the superannuate relation. He spent the following year on the Gulf Coast and came in the fall to the neighborhood of Crystal Springs, where Conference was to be held, intending to seek an appointment. With Conference less than two months away, he bought a horse to use on his anticipated charge. Before he had ridden the horse a mile, it threw him, and he was injured seriously. Lingering some two or three weeks, he passed away at the home of his daughter and son-in-law in Hinds county. His wife had died two years earlier.

Milton J. Whitworth

Three weeks before the 1870 session of the Annual Conference, Milton J. Whitworth died at his home at Brookhaven, from tuberculosis. He was born in Bedford county, Tennessee, December 16, 1811. He came to Mississippi in 1835, and was converted at Topisaw campground in 1842 at the old site on Bogue Chitto River. Afterwards he was licensed to preach and maintained his ministerial orders and exercised his ministerial functions to the end. He is best known by his part in the founding of the college that bears his name. His death took place on October 24, 1870, and on the occasion of his funeral, two days later, the college and all business houses in Brookhaven closed.

Deaths Among the Laity

Notices appeared in the *Advocate* of the death of the following: Mrs. H. R. Singleton, who was Lucy Burruss Forsyth, died at Jackson, La., aged 15 years and 11 months. Burruss and Forsyth have been prominent names in Mississippi Methodism during the years, while the young husband, H. R. Singleton, joined the Conference in the fall of this year.

Hon. J. Alfred Griffin, son of Col. William and Mrs. Mary Griffin, died at Boerne, Texas, April 17, 1870, and was brought to Moss Point for burial.

Judge A. B. Longstreet, former president both of Centenary College and of the University of Mississippi, died July 9, 1870.

Electious Williams, born in what was later the District of Columbia, July 25, 1783, and one of the founders of Mount Carmel church in Franklin county, died July 16, 1870.

West Pascagoula Circuit

A letter from U. B. Phillips, pastor at West Pascagoula in the newly-acquired Mobile Conference territory, appeared in the *Advocate* in June of this year. There were twelve appointments on this circuit which reached from Ocean Springs to Salem High School (now Leaf). He says, "These people get their living by burning charcoal and getting saw logs." There was no property belonging to the church on the entire circuit; but there was a desire to build a church at Ocean Springs and a committee was appointed consisting of Miss Mary Y. Perrin, Miss Mary Johnson, Miss Charlotte Parks, and four ladies from New Orleans.

College Commencements

The commencement exercises of Whitworth College were held June 28, the sermon being preached by James A. Godfrey. There were seven graduates this year out of the 147 students in the college.

Commencement exercises at Sharon Female College were held July 19-21. This school dated back 35 years, and had a noble history. There were no graduates this year. J. M. Pugh resigned as president and W. L. C. Hunnicutt was elected to succeed him.

This year also, Wm. G. E. Cunningham was elected president of Centenary College, but did not accept.

Revivals

Two outstanding revivals were reported in the *New Orleans Advocate* this year. The revival at Mount Pleasant, in Jackson county, was held in July, 1870. The pastor, U. B. Phillips, reported 10 additions to the church, making a total of 60 received during the year.

A revival was held at Providence, in Copiah county, where 40 conversions and 28 accessions to the church were witnessed.

There is mention in the *Advocate* of a church, possibly a revival meeting, at Gallatin, the county seat of Copiah, four miles west of Hazlehurst.

A camp meeting was held at Frost Bridge.

The following is a letter written to the *Advocate* by U. B. Phillips on September 17, 1870, concerning Red Hill church which has had a long and useful history, and is still an active unit on the Vancleave charge. Red Hill is the home church of J. B. Cain, one of the historians of the Mississippi Conference. There were noble people in that area. The letter tells of experiences that were common in those days:

> "We have just closed a meeting at Red Hill church. The power of the Master was clearly manifested in convicting and converting sinners. There were 15 conversions and 18 accessions. We could have continued the meeting longer, as interest increased daily, but other appointments far away brought the services to a close with about 40 petitioners at the altar. . . . We have been blessed with the assistance of Bros. Roberts and Flurry, men of zeal and religious experience.
>
> "We had also to assist, by her prayers and presence, Mother Fletcher, a remarkable monument of God's favor. She was converted in 1800 and for 70 years has adorned the noble cause. On the day of her conversion she walked 50 miles to the campmeeting that was in progress at Wilmington, North Carolina, and under the preaching of John Gamewell she was converted. Going to the altar just before the dawn of day, without rest or refreshment for her wearied body, she was happily converted. Trembling with the infirmities of age, she still loves to linger around the altar and counsel penitents. We thank God that we ever saw Mother Fletcher. She has been tried in the furnace of religious experience and can encourage the young.

She is now walking beside the waters of the dark river, waiting for the boatman to carry her home. She is ready and says she thinks she will attend her next protracted meeting in eternity, where congregations never break up."

District Conference

The General Conference in May provided that a District Conference be held annually in each district. We have the record of only one District Conference being held in the interim between the 1870 General Conference and Annual Conference. It was the Brandon District Conference and was held in midsummer at Garlandsville, one of the oldest towns in eastern Mississippi and one that grew to about 2,000 population just prior to the War Between the States; but with the building of the Alabama and Vicksburg Railroad the community gradually depleted, many of its leading families moving to Meridian and to Newton, seven miles to the north. While the writer was holding a meeting at Garlandsville in 1934, an aged layman, Dent Williams, son of one of the pioneer families, said he recalled quite well the fact that Bishop Keener held a District Conference at Garlandsville in the summer of 1870 and ate dinner at his mother's house. While the Bishop ate dinner, Dent, who was only a lad, smoked the Bishop's pipe and it made him deathy sick.

Facts and Figures

Nothing is harder to secure than an accurate set of statistics. It cannot be done even today, much less during the days of hardship following the War Between the States, when circuits were sparsely settled, preaching points on a circuit numerous, roads few, and records scanty. Oftentimes the circuit rider could not even get to Annual Conference to make his report, and usually in such cases the report was left unmade.

The 1870 Annual Conference, an account of which opens the next chapter, reported a total of 15,386 white members and 520 colored members. The colored members dwindled fast after this, because of the formation of the Colored Methodist Episcopal

Church by the General Conference; and the membership we report hereafter will be of white members only. In 1870 there was reported a total of 268 churches, with an average of less than 58 members per church. Even this small average membership is an overstatement, since the 268 churches reported were church buildings, and there were many congregations yet without buildings of their own. There was reported a total of 136 Sunday Schools with 822 superintendents and teachers, 5,665 scholars, and 17,996 volumes in their libraries. The churches reported their total number of "sittings" as 54,905, which is probably a liberal estimate since this means that the average church would seat 205 persons. The total valuation of the 268 churches was listed as $270,535, or slightly above $1,000 per church.

The total salaries assessed for the pastors was listed at $42,120 while the total actually reported paid was $30,575, or less than $300 per pastor. A close examination of the compiled statistics reveals the fact, however, that some charges failed to report what they paid their pastors, and thus it seems that the pastors actually must have averaged nearer $400 than $300.

The salaries for the presiding elders ranged in assessment from $650 to $1,310, while what they were actually paid ranged from $389 to $903.

Only the pastors at Woodville, Vicksburg, Fayette, and Jackson received as much as $1,000, with the Vicksburg pastor receiving the highest, $1,650.

The Conference paid a total of $887 to the Bishop's Fund, $1,660 to Conference Collections, and $1,144 for Missions or General Benevolences, this latter figure being only about half of the previous year's collection for Missions.

Parsonages

Only 17 parsonages were reported this year in the entire Conference, and four of them were in the newly-acquired territory called the Meridian District. The 17 charges with parsonages were:

Woodville District: Woodville Station, Wilkinson, and Buffalo
Vicksburg District: Vicksburg Station, North Warren, and Fayette
Yazoo District: Yazoo Station
Brandon District: Trenton, and Paulding
Mount Carmel (Seashore) District: (None)
Brookhaven District: Brookhaven Station, Summit, and Crystal Springs
Clinton (La.) District: (None)
Jackson District: Jackson Circuit (The parsonage at Sharon seems to have been sold, abandoned, or destroyed before 1870)
Meridian District: Meridian Station, Shubuta, Marion, and DeKalb

The valuation of these parsonages ranged from $300 to $4,100 in the case of Vicksburg Station, while the total valuation was listed as $26,150, for an average of slightly more than $1,500.

New Churches

From records compiled in recent years for the Conference Historical Society, we glean the following information of churches organized and built in 1870:

At Providence, in Copiah county, a new church was erected.

At Harrisville, in Simpson county, a church was organized.

At Sageville, six miles southwest of Meridian, the church was rebuilt.

The Pleasant Grove church in Kemper county (now on the Cleveland charge but then on the DeKalb) was organized with nine charter members, and a building was erected 30x40 feet in size.

At Hickory a small church was built (on the site of the present church) which served Hickory Methodism until 1922, although it was enlarged and improved in the 1880's.

The Bethel church in Lincoln county (on the Scotland charge) was organized with 18 charter members and a church about 40x50 feet in size was erected.

Conehatta Church Organized

On the third Sunday in April, 1870, a new church was organized in Newton county under the name of Centerville, which name later gave place to that of the community in which the church was located, Conehatta. The Pleasant Valley Congregational Methodist church was about two miles away and there had been Methodist influence in that section of Newton county for a good many years. Charter members of the new church were: L. M. Horton, G. M. Eady, L. M. Horton, Jr. F. M. Horton, R. E. Horton, E. W. T. Horton, C. P. Scarborough, Henry Scarborough, J. W. Pearson, D. T. Russell, Jobe Hammond, Lucy J. Horton, and Susan A. Horton. John A. Vance was the pastor at the time of organization and was succeeded by W. A. Ray, local elder, who received as members the following year: A. J. Hudson, Frances Russell, A. A. Eady, A. E. Scarborough, Liza Scarborough and Josephine Bailey.

This is the home community of Robert L. Langford, now of our Conference, whose family in this church dates back to 1874. He is the son of Geo. M. Langford.

Unrest and Discord

These were times that tried men's souls, both in church and state. It was only five years since the War Between the States, and the South was not prosperous. There was much tension, and in several places actual clashing and rioting.

James L. Alcorn of Coahoma county was governor from March 1870 to November 1871, at which time he became U. S. Senator. The lieutenant governor, Ridgeley C. Powers of Ohio, who succeeded him in November of this year, has been designated as the most popular and respected of all the Mississippi carpetbaggers. He held office until January 1874 when he was succeeded by Adelbert Ames of Maine who was governor until March 1876, when John M. Stone became governor and the Democratic party again triumphed.

CHAPTER II

1871

Annual Conference at Crystal Springs

The Annual Conference met in the thriving and growing little town of Crystal Springs, December 14-20, 1870. Bishop David S. Doggett, making his only official visit to the Conference, was the president; C. G. Andrews was the secretary; and John A. B. Jones and John T. Cameron, a layman, were the assistant secretaries.

Roll Call

There were 76 clerical members present, and 19 laymen, as follows: J. E. Jagers, E. S. Drake, Thomas Reed, William J. Seale, James E. Watts, Irvin Miller, William A. Moore, Isaac M. Applewhite, J. D. Terrell, J. W. Williams, W. C. Warren, Isaac V. Enochs, Levi Godbold, John McVea, Josiah Nettles, John T. Cameron, John W. Hall, T. S. West, and T. P. Bell.

Bishop Keener and Other Visitors

Bishop John Christian Keener was serving his first year as Bishop but had been editor of the *New Orleans Christian Advocate* and was well known to the Mississippi brethren among whom he lived for almost half a century at Ocean Springs where he had a summer home. He was present at this 1870 Annual Conference for several days representing Centenary College as his main purpose, but he also assisted Bishop Doggett, a stranger, in presiding over the sessions of the Conference. Dr. John B. McFerrin, of Nashville, Dr. J. B. Walker and Rev. R. J. Harp, both of New Orleans, were also present, representing the missionary interests of the Church, the *Advocate*, and the New Orleans branch of The Publishing House.

Losses in Conference Membership

There are very few preachers who *locate* at an Annual Conference today, but in those days there were several every year. This was chiefly because there were few parsonages and schools, and it was hard for preachers with families to provide for them and to travel hard circuits at the same time. To "locate" was, and is, to desist from taking an appointment for the ensuing year and to go back to the rank of local preacher. It was a withdrawal from membership in the Conference, subject to readmission at some future session of the Conference.

There were eight who located at this 1870 session, some strong men among them. Peer of them all was the veteran Charles Kimball Marshall of Vicksburg who had served South Warren circuit this year from his Vicksburg plantation and who had been a member of the General Conference in May. The eight were Daniel A. J. Parker, Thomas M. Ward, Christopher R. Godfrey, Charles K. Marshall, John C. Carlyle, Willis H. Germany, Charles T. French, and Elisha F. Mullins. T. M. Ward was the grandfather of Mrs. David C. Stubbs (Perdita Ward), missionary to Japan and now of Scarritt College.

It proved that six of these were not to return: namely, Thomas M. Ward, who had served since 1855; Christopher R. Godfrey, who had served since 1853; Charles K. Marshall himself, who had been admitted on trial in 1833 and located in 1843 only to be readmitted in 1855; John C. Carlyle, who had served only since 1868; Willis H. Germany who had been admitted on trial in 1844 but had located thrice previously for a total of 10 years of location against 16 years of itinerant service; and Charles T. French, who had joined with Willis H. Germany in 1844 and had given 26 years of continuous service. These six had served a total of 101 years.

Two young ministers, on trial, were *discontinued:* William K. Simmons, who had served only one year; and Robert B. Seeders, who had served two years.

Seven asked the supernumerary relation at this 1870 Conference: Leonidas R. Redding, Jarratt W. McNeil, Jas. K. Hamblen, Philip S. Petty, John G. Jones, Ransom J. Jones, Sr., and John B. Bowen. Those in this relationship maintained Conference membership but did not take an appointment, other than the obligation to actively assist the pastor of the charges where they lived.

Five preachers were *transferred* to other Conferences: To the West Texas Conference, J. C. C. Black who as pastor of Enterprise circuit had just come from the Alabama Conference; to the Alabama Conference, Josiah Barker and A. J. Coleman, who had served Meridian station and West Pascagoula and were merely going back to their home Conference; to the Louisiana Conference, Robert A. Davis, from whence he had come one year previously; and to the North Georgia Conference, Wilbur Fisk Glenn, who had been admitted on trial in the Mississippi Conference in 1866 and had been pastor at Fayette in 1870, and who was to serve long and faithfully in North Georgia. Glenn Memorial Church on the Emory University campus is named for him.

The only new *superannuate* at this session was the veteran Barnabas Pipkin who had served Greensburg and St. Helena in the Louisiana parishes the last two years, following a term as superannuate from 1862 to 1868. He had come to the Mississippi Conference from South Carolina in 1821 and served most of his years in the Mississippi Conference as a presiding elder.

The other superannuates were Thomas Clinton, George T. Vickers, John G. Deskin, John B. Higginbotham, Levi Pearce, and Hervey Copeland.

Charles B. Galloway Returns

Charles Betts Galloway, a rapidly developing and magnetic young preacher, was serving Black Hawk charge when the General Conference placed that charge in the North Mississippi Conference in midyear of 1870. Electing to remain in the Mississippi Conference, it became necessary for him to transfer back, even though he had not missed a single session of our Conference. At this Conference session he was appointed to Port Gibson, and it was in our Conference that he was to live and serve as pastor, editor, and bishop for nearly four decades, until in 1909 he was to receive his final transfer at the hands of the Great Shepherd and Bishop of our souls.

Most of the ministers who fell into the North Mississippi Conference did not return. As far as the total history of Mississippi Methodism is concerned, probably the most notable was Kenneth A. Jones (son of Ransom J. Jones, Sr., and half-brother of the writer) whose father came into the Mississippi Conference in 1831 and whose direct kinsmen have been serving in it ever since. Kenneth A. Jones was the first preacher, and possibly the first white child, born in Jasper county. He had served in the Mississippi Conference as pastor and presiding elder since 1853; but the organization of the North Mississippi Conference found him pastor at Starkville. He labored faithfully in that Conference until he fell in 1910, an honored superannuate living at Black Hawk.

Admissions—Transfers

Eleven were *admitted on trial*, the largest number since the War Between the States. Four of the eleven were from the new territory. The eleven were: William J. Seale, from Philadelphia circuit; John Wesley Sandell, from Magnolia circuit; Thomas B. Walden, from Martinsville circuit; David P. Bradford, from Greensburg circuit; Hiram Rivers Singleton, from Jackson, La.; Peter Wilson Cram, from East Feliciana circuit; John W. Hall, from Sulphur Springs circuit; Alexander Trotter, from Clarke and Shubuta circuit; Daniel G. W. Ellis, from DeKalb circuit; George M. Gilmore, from Clarke and Shubuta circuit; and James S. Parker, from Marion circuit.

Six were *readmitted:* John Lusk, Thos. Y. Armstrong, Horace M. Booth, Henry T. Jones, Seaborn R. Hyde, and Robert D. Norsworthy.

Four were *received by transfer:* James M. Gann, from North Alabama; Bascom T. Pearson, from Illinois; Charles B. Galloway, from North Mississippi; and George Bright, from the St. Louis Conference.

Proposal for Union

This session of the Annual Conference is not particularly notable, except for the changes in boundaries, already mentioned. It is commonly said that the union with the Mississippi Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church took place at this session, but this was not until the following year. However, negotiations took a forward step this year. A committee appointed at the last session, with W. H. Watkins as chairman, reported in favor of the union of the two Conferences on the following conditions:

1. Acceptance of our *Discipline* by the brethren coming from the Methodist Protestant Conference;
2. Full recognition of the orders of the Methodist Protestant ministers; and
3. Full recognition of members from the Methodist Protestant churches.

It was provided that the plan for union would become effective when a majority of the members of the Mississippi Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church should vote in favor of it. This was done by the next session of the Methodist Protestant Conference and the union then became a reality.

Delegates to District Conferences

The recent General Conference had provided that a District Conference be held in each district, the membership to be composed of all preachers, itinerant and local, within the bounds of the district, with a number of laymen, the exact number and manner of their election to be determined by each Annual Conference.

This Conference voted that each Quarterly Conference should elect four lay delegates to the District Conference. Since all of the districts, according to the arrangement at this session, contained from ten to twelve charges, the potential lay membership in any District Conference would be less than fifty. In only the Meridian District would the combined ministerial membership (active preachers, superannuates, local preachers, etc.) exceed the lay membership.

Next Conference in New Territory

The Conference voted to hold its next session in Meridian. This was a gracious recognition of the new territory on the east, and the next Conference was the first of many to be held there.

A special resolution of welcome was adopted for the former members of the Mobile Conference, now members of the Mississippi Conference, and also an expression of regret at losing those who had gone to the North Mississippi Conference.

Schools

The economic situation during the year had not been good, but it was reported that all of the schools in the Conference were in active operation, and all of them, except the Woodville Female Academy, were under the presidency of a member of the Conference. William H. Watkins was pastor at Natchez, but was also president of Centenary College.

The schools at Sharon were making a brave struggle to live. For the last time in their history they were under separate management, W. L. C. Hunnicutt being president of Sharon College and J. M. Pugh of Madison College.

At Port Gibson the school had become the property of the Conference, subject to a claim held by the president, Benjamin Jones. The committee that had secured the transfer to the Conference was discharged; a new committee consisting of W. H. Watkins, Thomas

Reed, and E. S. Drake, was appointed to settle any indebtedness to Benjamin Jones from the school.

The trustees of Whitworth College, through their agent, R. W. Millsaps, had leased the school to Harvey F. Johnson for a period of twenty years and four months, and this action was ratified by the Conference. In return President Johnson assumed all responsibility for indebtedness of any sort against the college. It was evidently assumed, though not stated, that all proceeds from the institution would go to him. The Conference owed William G. Millsaps three hundred dollars which he had previously advanced for the school, and it took an offering to repay him. A new chapel building had been erected at Whitworth during the year.

Orphans

The subject of orphan children, both at home and abroad, came before the Conference for action. It was reported that J. W. Lambuth had erected a building in China, into which he had gathered orphan children. It was requested by the Conference that each Sunday School take an offering during the first quarter for that purpose. There was still an effort to provide for the orphans at home; and a committee, composed of W. H. Watkins, J. L. Forsyth, and C. K. Marshall, was appointed to confer with a committee from the Louisiana Conference on the subject.

Missionary Debt

The Methodist Church has been interested in the cause of missions since its founding, and it has had remarkable success with the means at hand; but one of the most regrettable things is that there have never been sufficient funds to carry on the great work as it should be. Consequently, it has been necessary to incur debt in order to carry on the work in any creditable way. There was an old missionary debt hanging over the Church at this time, and it was partitioned out by assessment on the Annual Conferences. The part assigned to the Mississippi Conference was $1,450. This amount was reported to the Conference as secured with an additional $150, in cash and pledges, to be paid by April 1. In addition to this, about $1,000 was raised for missionary purposes in general.

The Bible Cause

J. W. Harmon, a member of the Conference and grandfather of Nolan B. Harmon (Book Editor of the Church since 1940) was acting as agent of the South Western Bible Society. Since he was rendering efficient and valuable services, the committee recommended his reappointment. In the report of the committee, evidently written by E. H. Mounger, chairman, are these true and beautiful words:

> "The Bible is the grand living miracle of the world, the witness not to one age or people, but to all. The fact that the Word of God has survived all the assaults of infidelity, commends it as the product of eternal truth. Every enemy has been led captive. The sciences, in their turn, marching through the several provinces of creation, have each demonstrated that Nature and Revelation are harmonious. In both, the reverent mind may hear the voice of God.
>
> "The written word of God, we hold to be the Great Charter of life, a light to the world which without it would be in grossest darkness. And it is the province of the Church today, to transmit this light to those who shall come after, and also to send it out where it never has reached. We believe in the regenerating power of Truth which alone can make men free; we recognize the duty, the necessity laid upon us of distributing the Holy Scriptures; on this point we are guilty of no heresy, yet a great want of interest is apparent among us. The Bible is cheap, but many houses are without it. The agent of the South Western Bible Society, within our limits, finds sixteen percent of the families visited by him destitute of the Word of Life. We are inclined to believe the destitution even greater . . . the fact calls us to earnest labor."

Changes in District Lines

The new Conference year began with the adjournment of the Annual Conference on December 20, 1870. In making the plans and appointments for the new year, it had been necessary for

Bishop Doggett to change the district lines to conform to the New Conference boundaries fixed by the General Conference.

All that had been in the Greenville District was now in the North Mississippi Conference, except two charges—Clover Hill and Lower Deer Creek—and these were attached to the Vicksburg District. Only Carthage was left us from the Starkville District, and it was placed in the Jackson District. The Yazoo District was dissolved because of the depletion of that district by the changes, and Yazoo City, Yazoo Circuit, and Mount Olivet were also attached to the Jackson District. The Meridian District, with the exception of Paulding, was composed of charges that came from the Meridian and Mobile Districts of the former Mobile Conference.

Some minor changes took place in the other districts. The total number of districts was reduced from ten to eight. The Clinton (La.) District was dissolved and the Summit District formed out of it and out of some of the appointments formerly in the Woodville District, plus Holmesville from the Brookhaven.

The Seashore District

The Mt. Carmel District was also dissolved, and the seven charges from that district were placed into a new district called Seashore. The name of one of these charges was changed from Ocoha (later called Cohay) to Enon, taking its name from that cultured community not many miles from where Hattiesburg now stands. The three remaining charges (Pascagoula, West Pascagoula, and Greene) were made up from territory received from the Mobile District. Seashore was a district made up of poor circuits, undeveloped, and the itinerants who served them were forced to meet many hardships and difficulties; but they were true men, and their faith led them to look for better things to come—and now, as we write, better things have come, for the Seashore District is one of Mississippi's best.

The West Pascagoula circuit, which included all of what is now included in the Ocean Springs, Vancleave, and Mentorum circuits, a very extensive territory, was left to be supplied by Irvin Roberts, a local preacher and ex-Confederate soldier, but he was a man who deserved and held the respect of his friends and neighbors for the purity of his character and the effectiveness of his ministry, truly a man of God. He was a preacher of usefulness and power for nearly half a century. When he went down to his grave in 1915 he was mourned by all who knew him. Mrs. J. L. Carter is his granddaughter.

Appointments

For the new year, 1870-1871, the Conference set up 87 pastoral appointments. Seven of the pastoral appointments were to be filled by supplies, all of whom were named at the time of the reading of the appointments, and 12 appointments were named as stations: Woodville, Clinton (La.), Brookhaven, Crystal Springs, Jackson, Canton, Yazoo City, Vicksburg, Port Gibson, Natchez, Meridian, and Enterprise.

The eight districts and their presiding elders for the new year were *Brandon,* Francis M. Williams; *Brookhaven,* George F. Thompson; *Jackson,* Henderson H. Montgomery; *Meridian,* William B. Hines; *Seashore,* Walter W. Hurst; *Summit,* Joseph Nicholson; *Woodville,* James L. Forsyth; and *Vicksburg,* John A. B. Jones.

That the complete picture of the districts and their pastoral charges might be seen, we give them in the order in which they appear in the 1870 Conference Journal for the year 1871, the first year after the assignment of the new Conference boundaries.

Pastoral Charges for 1871

Woodville District

Woodville Station
Wilkinson Circuit
Liberty
Buffalo
Bayou Sara
Jackson and Plains
East Feliciana
Clinton Station
Baton Rouge
Meadville

Summit District

Summit Circuit
Bogue Chitto
Holmesville
St. Helena
Greensburg
Arcola
Covington
Franklinton
Farmington
Tangipahoa

Seashore District

Mt. Carmel Circuit
Rankin
Columbia Mission
Gainesville
Handsboro
White Plains Mission
Enon
Pascagoula
West Pascagoula
Green

Brookhaven District

Brookhaven Station
Scotland
Brandywine
Crystal Springs Station
Hazlehurst
Pleasant Valley and Rehoboth
Burtonton
Georgetown
Wesson and Beauregard
Martinsville
Jackson Circuit

Jackson District

Jackson Station
Madison
Canton Station
Sharon
Sulphur Springs
Carthage
Camden
Yazoo City
Yazoo Circuit
Mt. Olivet
Brownsville
Raymond

Vicksburg District

Vicksburg Station
North Warren
South Warren
Cayuga
Rocky Springs
Port Gibson
Fayette
Natchez Station
Kingston
Lower Deer Creek
Clover Hill
Milldale & Cane Ridge

Brandon District

Brandon Circuit
Fannin
Forest
Trenton
Scotland Chapel Circuit
Sylvarena
Garlandsville
Decatur Mission
Morton
Philadelphia
Lake

Meridian District

Meridian Station
Marion
Toomsuba Mission
DeKalb
Spring Hill
Enterprise Station
Enterprise Mission
Enterprise Circuit
Clarke
Wayne
Paulding

A comparison with these names of appointments today causes one to notice first that some names are conspicuous by their absence: Hattiesburg, Laurel, Gulfport, McComb, Tylertown, Newton, Mendenhall, Prentiss, and Mount Olive, to name just a few.

In addition to these appointments, already enumerated, there were seven connectional appointments: Agent for South Western Bible Society, John W. Harmon; President Whitworth Female College, H. F. Johnson; President Sharon Female College, W. L. C. Hunnicutt; President Madison College, J. M. Pugh; Missionary to China, James W. Lambuth; President, Port Gibson Collegiate Academy, Benjamin Jones; and General Sunday School Agent and Secretary, Richard Abbey.

Ministers

To complete the picture now, we give a complete list of the ministers of the Conference.

Conference Members (Preachers) in 1871

Abbey, Richard
Adams, John W.
Andrews, Charles G.
Armstrong, Thomas Y.
Ballard, William E.
Booth, Horace M.
Bowen, Henry P.
Bowen, John B.
Boyles, George W.
Bradford, David P.
Bright, George
Brogan, John C.
Campbell, Alexander M.
Campbell, Columbus W.
Carley, Lyman
Chamberlin, Corydon
Chatfield, George W.
Clark, John J.
Clinton, Thomas
Copeland, Hervey
Cram, Peter W.
Curtiss, Julius T.
Day, Andrew
Deskin, John G.
Dillehay, David W.
Downer, Robert B.
Ellis, Daniel G. W.
Ellis, John A.
Featherstun, Francis M.
Finn, William
Flowers, Ephraim A.
Flowers, Thomas W.
Forsyth, James L.
Galloway, Charles B.
Gann, James M.
Gilmore, George M.
Givens, David A.
Godfrey, James A.
Hall, John W.
Hamblen, James K.
Harmon, John W.
Harrington, Whitfield
Harris, Henry J.
Harris, James S.
Hays, John D.
Heard, Joshua T.
Higginbotham, John B.
Hines, William B.
Holland, Jacob H.
Howard, Parmenas
Hunnicutt, William L. C.
Hurst, Walter W.
Hyde, Seaborn R.
Jackson, George

Johnson, Harvey F.
Jones, Benjamin
Jones, Henry T.
Jones, John A. B.
Jones, John G.
Jones, Ransom J., Sr.
Kendall, Louis
Lambuth, James W.
Leith, William H.
Lewis, Henry P.
Lewis, William B.
Linfield, Wm. E. M.
Liverman, John M.
Lusk, John
McNeill, Jarrett W.
Meador, Levi P.
Merchant, David
Millsaps, William G.
Montgomery, Henderson H.
Mounger, Edwin H.
Nicholson, Archibald B.
Nicholson, Joseph
Norsworthy, Robert D.
Parker, James S.
Pearce, Levi
Pearson, Bascom T.
Petty, Philip S.
Phillips, Ulysses B.
Pipkin, Barnabas
Price, Thomas
Pugh, Josiah M.
Redding, Leonidas R.
Robertson, Ira B.
Sandell, John W.
Seale, William J.
Shanks, James
Sharbrough, Franklin W.
Shelton, James H.
Sibley, Robert A.
Simmons, Epaphroditus W.
Singleton, Hiram R.
Spillman, William
Stewart, Andrew B.
Strickland, Erastus R.
Thompson, George F.
Trotter, Alexander
Vance, John A.
Vickers, George T.
Wadsworth, William
Watkins, William H.
Weems, James M.
Williams, Francis M.
Willis, John D.
Young, Newton B.

Supply Pastors in 1871

Bancroft, George
Black, Warren C.
Brown, T. W.
Collins, J. S.
Roberts, Irving
Williams, John W.
Winbush, J. M.

A Year of Conquest

The fact that these preachers went out to win souls, to do the work of the Kingdom, and to build up the Church is attested by the fact that during this Conference Year they baptized 1,142 adults and 948 children, and increased the number of white members from 15,386 to 17,124, a gain of 1,738—a remarkable increase.

Moreover, according to the figures reported at the end of the year the number of Sunday Schools was increased from 132 to 180, a gain of 48; likewise the number of churches was increased from 286 to 300, a gain of 14. Financially, every item reported in the Annual Conference printed journal showed an increase in the total amount collected above the previous year.

Quarterly Conferences for the Seashore District

District areas were very extensive in those times, and the presiding elders had to do much traveling to reach all points. We illustrate by one of the rounds of W. W. Hurst, the presiding elder of the Seashore District, who lived at Brandon:

Mount Carmel, at Mount Zion	Jan. 28-29
Rankin Circuit, at Gum Springs	Feb. 4-5
Columbia Mission, at Union Academy	Feb. 18-19
Gainesville, at Gainesville	Feb. 25-26
Handsboro Circuit, at Handsboro	Mar. 4-5
White Plains Mission, at White Plains	Mar. 8
Pascagoula and Bayshore, at Antioch	Mar. 18-19
West Pascagoula, at Red Hill	Mar. 25-26
Greene Circuit, at Cross Roads	Apr. 1-2
Enon, at Hebron	Apr. 8-9

Thus this round started near the present Prentiss, went back into south Rankin county, dipped down to near Columbia, proceeded down to Gainesville on Pearl River (then a thriving community north of the present Logtown, but now only the site of a few houses and an old church building), turned back east to Handsboro on the coast, proceeded north to White Plains in the flats behind the coast, continued eastward to the Pascagoula charge where the Quarterly Conference was held at Antioch which is now on the Mentorum charge, proceeded southward to Red Hill now on the Vancleave charge, turned northwards to Cross Roads on the present Americus charge, and concluded at Hebron in Jones county at which place the presiding elder was still nearly a hundred miles from Brandon, though he had been twice that far from home.

District Stewards for the Jackson District

The presiding elder, H. H. Montgomery, announced in the *Advocate* the names of the Jackson District Stewards: A. H. Ford,

P. B. Cook, W. L. King, William Friley, J. P. Stevens, G. W. Harper, M. J. McKie, G. W. Galloway, E. N. Hart, R. T. Stockes, J. B. Robinson, T. N. Jones, John McKay.

Letter from J. W. Lambuth

A letter received during the early part of the year from J. W. Lambuth, Missionary to China from the Mississippi Conference, revealed that the Chinese student, Sier Whoa, who had come to America with Mrs. Lambuth in 1860 and returned to China in 1869, was married in the Episcopal Church in Shanghai on November 29, 1870, his bride being a member of that church. "It was the first time he had ever beheld her face." His English name was Charles K. Marshall.

Benjamin Jenkins, first Southern Methodist missionary to China, died at Shanghai on March 13.

Whitworth College and Other Schools

Brookhaven had a population of about 2,500. In four years the number of Whitworth College students had increased from 66 to 182. Commencement exercises were held June 25-27. Linus Parker, editor of the *Advocate,* preached on Sunday morning and afternoon while Harvey F. Johnson, at the request of the senior class, preached Sunday night. The commencement address was delivered by Hon. Ethelbert Barksdale. There were ten graduates who received the Master of English Literature degree and two the Master of Arts degree. One honorary degree was conferred.

Centenary College was relieved of its obligation to the State. The commencement sermon for Centenary was preached by Dr. John Mathews.

The commencement services of Sharon embraced June 19-22. The graduates were: Mollie Holliday, Dora Cameron, Fannie Holliday, Lou Holliday, and Bettie Kearney.

Subscriptions to Centenary College

It was to Centenary College, the pride of Mississippi Methodism of that day, that the Conference and the Methodists were looking for the education of the young men. Bishop Keener was one of the leading spirits. The following list of subscriptions will show the interest that was being taken in it. These men, all passed away, still speak through that college:

Centerville: Dr. J. K. Parker, $25; N. S. Dickson, $100; L. J. Chapman, $100; Fayette Anderson, $25.
Woodville: Dr. J. T. Henderson, $50; Moses Cavin, $50.
Kingston: Dr. C. F. Farrar, $100.
Natchez: W. P. Mellen, $100; J. L. Guice, $100; W. B. Spencer, $50.
Greenville: W. L. Nugent, $500.
Jackson: C. G. Andrews, $400.
Fayette & Cane Ridge: John M. Folkes, $90; Jesse H. Darden, $100; George L. Butler, $100; James Johnson, $100; Thomas Reed, $100; James McClure, $25; Benjamin A. Bullen, $100; Mrs. Capt. Coffey, $100; E. R. and F. A. Jones, $200; G. C. Armstrong, $100; John G. Guice, $100; Jackson Millsaps, $100; David McCaa, $50. Total for Fayette and Cane Ridge $1,265.
Brookhaven: Rev. W. G. Millsaps, $100; Rev. E. H. Mounger, $100.

District Conferences

We have a full account of the Brookhaven District Conference which met at Hazlehurst on July 13, 1871. George F. Thompson was the presiding elder. Isaac V. Enochs, a layman, was secretary and L. R. Redding his assistant. There were 44 members present, every circuit but three being represented. Crystal Springs reported the use of envelopes for taking up the offering in the church, with great success. A District Ministerial Education Association was formed among the laymen. Willis Barnes, Crystal Springs, was elected president; R. T. C. Hilliard, Brookhaven, vice-president; J. F. Enochs, Crystal Springs, secretary; and J. Harvey Thompson, Brookhaven, treasurer. A committee was appointed to lay off the lots for the district campground. The lay delegates to the Annual Conference were E. G. Cook (local preacher), R. T. C. Hilliard, J. Harvey Thompson, and Isaac V. Enochs. The alternates were W. W. Funchess (local preacher), John Dunning, Jesse Thompson, and Willis Barnes.

The Meridian District Conference met at Enterprise where John D. Hays was pastor. Bishop Paine was present.

The Jackson District Conference was held at Sharon, July 27-29; and the delegates elected to the Annual Conference were Thomas Green, E. C. Postell, D. C. Langford, and J. T. Cameron.

The Vicksburg District Conference convened at Utica on July 27 with 13 ministers and 12 laymen present. The delegates elected to the Annual Conference were E. R. Jones, W. E. Holloman, L. R. Davis, and G. L. Record; the alternates were A. M. Cameron, D. L. Rivers, Hayward Foote, and W. J. Lum.

The Summit District Conference met on July 28 at Magnolia where Benjamin Jones was pastor. The delegates elected to the Annual Conference were E. L. Tarver (local preacher), Felix Martin, Dr. Charles W. Reams, and Henry C. Newsom; the alternates were W. H. Hartley, Robert H. Felder, William C. Warren, and William D. Lee.

We have no records of the other District Conferences although we know that the Seashore met at Bay St. Louis and the Brandon at Forest.

Hennington Campground

There was a meeting in August of the Committee for the campground appointed at the recent Brookhaven District Conference. John J. Hennington was elected chairman, and the secretary, John Fletcher Enochs, was at his post.

The following was agreed upon and set forth: (1) The campground was to be in Crystal Springs, on a spot to be selected by the committee; (2) The trustees were to be John J. Hennington, John Fletcher Enochs, J. W. Vest, J. W. McMillan, William

Graves, J. Harvey Thompson, and H. J. Bracey; (3) The first camp meeting was to be held during the full moon in August, 1872; and (4) The Quarterly Conferences in the area were to have choice of lots.

Campgrounds and Camp Meetings

In the spring of 1871 the Mobile churches passed a resolution in favor of a union camp meeting (of the Mobile, Seashore, and New Orleans Districts of the Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana Conferences) and appointed the following to meet with the New Orleans committee: William Otis, Chairman, John Elsworth, Ira W. Porter, A. C. Danner, and Thomas H. Price.

The Salem camp meeting in Jackson county was held in October of this year; the preachers were Messrs. Urquahart, Leith, Wimbush, Morris, and the pastor, U. B. Phillips. There were 33 professions of faith and 16 accessions to the church. The statement was made that the campground has been there "for nearly 50 years."

A camp meeting was held on the DeKalb charge during the latter part of the year. The preachers were Messrs. Gann, Holland, Rye, Morse, McLaurin, and Smith, the latter a Cumberland Presbyterian.

East Mississippi Female College Organized

L. P. Brown, layman of Meridian for long years, and President of the Board of Trustees of Meridian College, the successor of the East Mississippi Female College, wrote the following account of its history:

> "The East Mississippi Female College reaches back to a meeting of some friends of education in Meridian held on August 23, 1871, for the purpose of founding a female college which was to be under the auspices of the Mississippi Annual Conference of the M. E. Church, South. Mr. John A. Lewis was the first chairman of the movement and the first name given it was 'College Home.'

"Judge Thomas Christian was the first president of the Board of Trustees: John H. Gibbs was vice-president; S. B. Watts, secretary; A. D. Sadler, treasurer. Other members of the Board were: W. B. Hines, John A. Ellis, W. E. M. Linfield, and Joshua T. Heard.

"The school was opened in the old Central Methodist Church Building with Prof. S. T. Rice as the first president. The total matriculation the first year was 44 students.

"John A. Ellis, presiding elder, acted as agent for the college, and money was raised and a building was erected on the corner of Twenty-third Avenue and Eleventh Street. Substantial additions were made to the building from time to time through the years.

"Succeeding presidents were: J. W. Adkisson, A. D. McVoy, R. M. Saunders, Charlie Anderson, T. B. Holloman, and J. W. Beeson.

"The first graduating class was in 1874, with four graduates. The total from 1874 until 1896 was 168 graduates."

Various Items of Interest

During this year we have our first record of joint meetings of Quarterly Conferences. The Handsboro and Biloxi Quarterly Conferences were held at Biloxi, and the East Pascagoula and West Pascagoula Quarterly Conferences were held at Mount Pleasant.

Delegates to the Sunday School Convention, meeting in Nashville on May 7, were W. L. C. Hunnicutt, Joshua T. Heard, Richard Abbey, and John T. Cameron who was a layman from Madison county.

Holmesville, once a prominent place where many great men lived, was still the county seat of Pike, but conditions there had greatly changed: the Methodist church had only 60 members. A revival was held during the year by H. P. Lewis and J. Harvey Winborne, a local preacher, the grandfather of Mrs. C. F. Carley, of Columbia.

The Sunday School at Bayou Sara, where Thomas Garnett was superintendent, sent $22.50 to the Orphans Home School in China, the first Sunday School in the Conference to respond to that appeal.

Churches and Parsonages

A church named Pleasant Grove was organized during the year. It was the forerunner of the church now in the town of Mount Olive, and the building erected in 1871 was about a half mile away from the site of the present Mount Olive church.

The *Advocate* stated that the Milldale church on the Cane Ridge charge had been "torn down by the Yankees" and the members were now at Oak Ridge.

A society was organized on the Sunflower River with 21 members.

A report from the Summit District stated that Covington, Louisiana, had a new church and 100 new members; Franklinton, Louisiana, also had a new church; and the church and parsonage lots at Summit had been given by Col. Garland.

Crystal Springs was a station for the first time this year. Crystal Springs had 278 members though Jackson had only 171; and Hazlehurst, which had been with Crystal Springs, had 125 members while Brookhaven had only 106.

The Brandon District reported eight new churches. In this district, Fannin, Lake, Morton, and Forest were appointments for the first time.

The Lake circuit was composed of Lake, Centerville, Salem, Union Ridge, and White Plains. The Centerville church (now Conehatta) which had been organized in April 1870 with 18 members, grew to 70 this year.

In the Brookhaven District the Brandywine circuit was completely detached from the Scotland circuit and was composed of Providence School House, Nebo, Brandywine, Cool Springs, and Sumpter.

In the Meridian District, Jasper, Wayne, Clarke, Spring Hill, and Toomsuba were appointments for the first time. According to the reports at the Annual Conference Spring Hill and Clarke had parsonages for the first time this year, making the total of 17 in the Conference.

The Vicksburg church had the highest valuation this year, $30,000 with 600 sittings, and Natchez and the second highest, $20,000 with 700 sittings.

The Jackson pastor was the only one who received more than $1,000 this year. The 82 pastors who reported their salary receipts to the Annual Conference reported an average of about $430.

The Summit and Seashore presiding elders were paid less than $400 each, but each had a $200 missionary appropriation.

John Blacklidge

Only one death occurred among the preachers during this year of 1871: John Blacklidge. He was a member of the Conference only in the sense that union with the Mississippi Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church had already been voted. Born in South Carolina, he came to Mississippi in his youth, and lived in Jones county at the time of his death on September 11. He was coming into this Conference by the union with the Methodist Protestant Church, and he lived to rejoice a short while over the union, of which he was a strong advocate. In his early life he was converted and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, soon becoming a class leader, then an exhorter, and finally a local preacher for about 25 years. In 1853 he joined the Methodist Protestant Church and served as a local preacher until 1867, when he joined the Methodist Protestant Conference. He served a small charge in that Conference, but was forced to give up his work on account of failing health. He was a good man, pious, fervent in zeal, faithful in labor, and victorious in death.

Some Deaths During the Year

David George Humphreys was born May 17, 1794, and died January 11, 1871. He was the son of George W. Humphreys and

Sarah Smith Humphreys (for whom Humphreys county in Mississippi is named), married Mary Coburn, joined the Methodist Church at a Quarterly Conference at Port Gibson under B. M. Drake, and was president of the board of trustees of Port Gibson Academy for 27 years.

Mrs. Jane Cole Carr died on January 8. She was born in North Carolina, March 4, 1798. She was married three times. Her first husband was a Mr. Mayers, and by that marriage had two distinguished sons, Judge A. G. Mayers, of Brandon, long a judge on the circuit bench, and P. K. Mayers, of Handsboro, editor for years of a newspaper at Pascagoula. By this marriage she was also the mother of Mrs. Mary Everett, for long years of Newton. Her second marriage was to Claiborne Mann, and the third to Jacob Carr, a faithful local preacher of long-time standing and the founder of Carr's Church which is now on the Homewood charge.

Mrs. Ann McInnis Griffin, widow of the late John Alfred Griffin of Pascagoula, died at Newton on January 29 of this year.

Mrs. Lucinda Jane Farrar Hankinson died February 15. Born in South Carolina in 1789, she married Chilion F. Stiles in 1812, who died at Elizabeth Academy in 1822, being its first president. Her second marriage was to Col. E. C. Hankinson on Big Black. She died at the home of her granddaughter, Mrs. William Laughlin.

Mrs. Catherine Jeffries died at Port Gibson. She was born in Camden, South Carolina, in 1807, and married Nathaniel Jeffries in February, 1825.

John Ira Ellis Byrd, who served in the Mississippi Conference intermittently from 1813 until his superannuation in 1857 and who fell into the territory of the North Mississippi Conference, died April 6, at the home of his son in Back Hawk. He was born on Lynch Creek in South Carolina, a son of Redden Byrd and Ann Huggins, and was converted on July 7, 1810. He was married three times. His first marriage was in 1816 to Margaret McRae, a sister of Governor McRae, and to this union were born seven children. His second marriage was in 1830 to Adeline C. Terry of Claiborne county, and 12 children blessed this marriage. His third wife was a Mrs. Rachel Marshall. Large families graced the homes of that day. Mr. Byrd lived in the McRae settlement while he was a local preacher. He and his uncle, William S. Byrd, lived near Sweetwater, Copiah county, in 1823-24.

Charles Hoover died on May 14 of this year near Ebenezer. Having been born in Orangeburg District, South Carolina, in 1807, he was brought to Pike county in 1809. He moved to Holmes county in 1827 and married Nancy May, of Yazoo county, in 1828; six children were born to them. He married Mrs. Elizabeth Knight in 1854; and eight children were born to them, He was the great-uncle of H. A. Gatlin of the Mississippi Conference, and also of Miss Lizzie Hoover, long the organist of the Yazoo City church.

Mrs. Rebecca Owen died on May 15, having survived by nearly three years her distinguished husband. She was Miss Rebecca Bass, of Rodney, born in 1796, and first married James Calvit in 1815. She married Thomas Owen in 1828, who was received on trial in 1813.

Mrs. Eleanor Davies (Wailes) Curtiss died at Hazlehurst on May 18. The widow of Rev. W. M. Curtiss, she was born in Augusta, Georgia, in 1806. Having united with the church at Elizabeth Academy at the age of 18, she had been a Methodist for 49 years.

Mrs. Clarissa Whitney, widow of the late John M. Whitney, long a prominent layman of Fayette, died on June 9.

Mrs. O. L. Nash died at Clinton, Mississippi, on June 22. She united with the Methodist Church on May 10, 1830, and was married to Orsamus L. Nash two days later. Her husband had joined the Conference in 1825 and served intermittently until his death in 1853.

Miss Sallie Millsaps, born October 15, 1850, of a very prominent family, probably at the Millsaps place near the present town of Heidelberg in Jasper county, died at Garlandsville in Jasper county on August 4, 1871.

Edward U. Powell was born in Maryland and died at his home in Claiborne county, November 23, 1871. He was an excellent layman, a preacher's friend, and he had a fine family.

J. J. Lazenby, for two years a member of the Mississippi Conference, was born in Georgia, May 2, 1825, and died in Simpson county, Mississippi, December 8, 1871, a local preacher at the time.

Edmund Hester was born in Bladen county, North Carolina, December 15, 1782, and died December 24, 1871. After living in Effingham county, Ga., he moved to Mississippi in 1816 and settled in Harrison county on the Back Bay near Biloxi. As soon as a house of worship could be erected, Sweetwater church was established, and a camp meeting was soon held there, all largely through his help and influence. He died in the faith, a useful man.

Mrs. Emma Bantz was born in Rhode Island, April 20, 1790, and died in Tensas Parish, La., on December 11, 1871. She moved with her father, whose name was Chin, to Mobile and then to Natchez and on to Washington, Miss., and was a member of the church there. She heard William Winans preach to the soldiers, led by Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812-15. She was the mother of Thomas and William Price, both preachers.

CHAPTER III

1872

Conference at Meridian

The Annual Conference met at Meridian, December 13-19, 1871. The early history of Meridian is interesting.

The location of Meridian was decided in 1854 by the proposed railroad crossing of the Mobile and Ohio with the Alabama and Vicksburg (which was then called the Vicksburg and Montgomery). Though the location was decided, the name of the town was not. First it was called Sowashee Station, then Ragsdale City, then Ball's Store. It was when Mr. Ball obtained a post office under the name "Meridian" that the name was finally secured. The village was granted a charter of corporation in January 1860, and was growing rapidly when the war set it back. Both during the war and afterwards it was a railroad center and the key to the southern transportation systems of Kentucky and Tennessee, and also the connecting line between Mississippi and Alabama.

After the fall of Vicksburg and Jackson, Sherman burned Meridian and left only two houses standing: the Ragsdale and Jones hotels. After the war the town was rebuilt with wooden buildings of yellow pine and began to grow even while other towns were still languishing. It was made the county seat in 1879.

The Annual Conference Session

Evidently the Conference met in the Presbyterian church because complimentary resolutions thanked the brethren of that church "for the use of their house of worship for the sessions of the Conference." Also the Baptists and the Cumberland Presbyterians were thanked for the use of their churches on Sunday.

The Conference convened on December 13, with 68 clerical and 20 lay members present during the session. Among the laymen were T. S. West and D. C. Langford who later became influential members of the Conference.

In coming and going from the Conference the members were granted half-fare tickets on the various railroads. The Alabama Great Southern Railroad had been completed into Meridian this year. Announcement was made at Conference that the Vicksburg and Meridian Railroad Company was granting the preachers half-fare rates for the entire year 1872.

Bishop H. H. Kavanaugh presided over the Conference. The Conference elected C. G. Andrews secretary, and John A. B. Jones and John T. Cameron, a layman, his assistants.

Committees

The Committee on Finance was composed of laymen: D. C. Langford, J. E. Jagers, E. L. Tarver, D. M. Womack, I. V. Enochs, D. M. Dunlap, T. P. Bell, E. R. Jones; and *the Committee on Public Worship* of ministers: W. B. Hines, the presiding elder; J. A. Ellis, the pastor; and J. T. Heard, former pastor.

Other committees and their chairmen were: *Education*: W. E. Ballard; *Sunday Schools:* Thomas Green; *Bible Cause:* R. B. Downer; *Religious Education:* E. G. Cook. These committees all made interesting and helpful reports.

Bishop Keener and Centenary

Bishop Keener was present again this year representing the claims of Centenary College. Also he assisted Bishop Kavanaugh with the business of the Conference during several days of the session.

During the session of the Annual Conference 20 ministers voluntarily pledged themselves to an earnest effort to raise funds in January and February 1872 for the repairs of Centenary College.

New Colleges

Under the caption "Home Female College," W. B. Hines, the Meridian presiding elder, was appointed agent—and J. A. Ellis, the Meridian pastor, and W. E. M. Linfield, J. T. Heard, and W. B. Hines were appointed additional trustees—of the newly organized East Mississippi Female College at Meridian.

The proposal of the Memphis, North Mississippi, and other Conferences to consider the establishing of a Central University was considered, and a committee of three ministers and three laymen was appointed to represent the Mississippi Conference in a meeting at Memphis on January 24, 1872.

Christian Literature

The *New Orleans Christian Advocate* reported 40% increased circulation. The Conference resolved that both preachers and laymen would push the circulation of this periodical and of all books issued by the Publishing House.

Union with Methodist Protestant Church

According to the plan laid at the last Annual Conference, the union of this Conference with the Mississippi Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church was consummated, and the following preachers were received from that Church: C. F. Gillespie, P. H. Napier, J. P. Commander, E. J. Taylor, Henry Moore, W. C. Pridgeon, J. O. Napier, J. H. Evans, W. M. Ross, C. McDonald, A. Y. Davis, J. A. Williams, Jesse McKay, James Long, William McCormick, J. G. Ingraham, R. J. Parker, J. Creel, Josiah Allen, and R. S. Clark.

Of the twenty received from the Methodist Protestant Church, seven received appointments in this Conference, two or three were transferred, two were given the supernumerary relation, four were superannuated, and five were located. The union was not approved by some others of their brethren, and they continued to hold connection with the Methodist Protestant Church which was reorganized by some 20 ministers in 1872.

The seven who received appointments at this Conference were: Charles F. Gillespie, Presiding Elder, Seashore District; Henry Moore, Taylorville Mission; E. J. Taylor, Ocean Springs; Philip H. Napier, Shubuta; John H. Evans, Raleigh; Claiborne McDonald, Morton; and J. O. Napier, Taylorsville.

Admitted on Trial

George Bancroft, from the Marion circuit
Warren Columbus Black, from the Raymond circuit
Henry Walter Featherstun, from the North Warren circuit
James J. Smylie, from the Jackson circuit

Readmitted

Elisha F. Mullins

Ordained Deacons

David A. Givens
John W. Hall
James M. Weems

Ordained Local Deacons

James M. Crews
A. C. Hundley
H. W. Featherstun
Aaron Jones
C. L. Kirksey
Miles Linton

Ordained Elders

Henry P. Bowen
Alexander M. Campbell
Charles B. Galloway
Levi P. Meader
Epaphroditus W. Simmons

Ordained Local Elders

Paul F. Sterns
Elijah L. Tarver
Samuel D. Terry

Received into Full Connection

Lyman Carley
George W. Chatfield
David M. Givens
James M. Weems
Ulysses B. Phillips

Received by Transfer

Pinckney A. Johnston, from the North Mississippi Conference

Transferred Out

George W. Boyles, to the North Mississippi Conference
J. P. Commander, to the North Mississippi Conference
W. M. Ross, to the North Mississippi Conference
George Bright, to the Louisiana Conference
George T. Bancroft, to the Alabama Conference
T. W. Flowers, to the Western Conference
R. S. Clark, to the Western Conference
Julius T. Curtiss, to the Western Conference

Located

Josiah Allen
J. Creel
J. G. Ingraham
R. J. Parker
Thomas Price

Discontinued

Peter Wilson Cram
William J. Seale

Supernumerary (for first time)

John W. Adams
A. Y. Davis
Thomas Nixon
J. A. Williams
George T. Vickers

Superannuates (New)

William Finn
Ransom J. Jones, Sr.
James Long
William McCormick
Jesse McKay

Next Session

The Conference voted to meet in Brandon, in 1872, and passed the following unusual resolution:

> "Whereas, The M. E. Church, South, in the town of Brandon, Mississippi was destroyed by Sherman's Army; and whereas, the members are making strenuous efforts to rebuild, but are unable so to do without aid from abroad;
>
> "*Therefore, be it resolved by the Mississippi Annual Conference,* That the preacher appointed to Brandon Station be and he is hereby authorized to solicit subscriptions and collect funds for the completion of the same."

In the appointments at the close of the Conference, George F. Thompson, who had been on the Brookhaven District, was appointed pastor of Brandon which was made a station.

Appointments

The Cabinet continued the same eight districts: Woodville, Summit, Seashore, Brookhaven, Jackson, Vicksburg, Brandon, and Meridian. There were two new presiding elders: Charles F. Gillespie on the Seashore, and W. E. M. Linfield on the Brookhaven.

Richard Abbey, who had served for several years as Sunday School Agent of the entire M. E. Church, South and who probably was the author of more books than any man of his day in the entire Church, was back in the pastorate and serving Yazoo circuit. This was a populous circuit of 348 members; it had 4 Sunday Schools and 5 churches. This circuit centered at Benton, while Fletcher's Chapel, Dover, and Midway were probably the other churches on it.

After a successful year at Port Gibson the youthful Charles B. Galloway was assigned to the Warren circuit. W. L. C. Hunnicutt, then at the very prime of his ministerial life, was assigned to Yazoo City, and Canton was left to be supplied by W. F. Horton, a man of gifts and eloquence who had come to Canton with recommendations from some of the leaders of the Methodist Church. His work not measuring up to Methodist standards, he soon left Canton and Dr. Hunnicutt was removed from Yazoo City to fill the vacancy at the former place. The Methodists of Yazoo City, led by the venerable John O. Hunter, one of the founders of the church in the village of Manchester, were indignant that such a capable man as Dr. Hunnicutt should be taken from their midst just as his work was beginning and a young man of unknown qualities sent in his place. The young man came, however, and after one sermon completely won his hearers, so that when he was moved two years later he left them in tears, even as he had found them in tears. The Louisiana Conference lent Reynolds S. Trippett to serve Port Gibson this year.

Notable work was being done this year at Vicksburg mission, a new appointment. Francis M. Featherstun was the pastor. He was the father of Horace Walter Featherstun and the great-grandfather of H. W. F. Vaughan of our Conference at the present time. On this mission a Sunday School was organized with 12 teachers and 75 pupils, a church was organized which had 48 members at the end of the year, and a church building erected valued at $5,000. At the close of the year the church was named Grove Street and its pastor returned for another year.

Rolling Fork

Notable work was also being done this year by Horace Walter Featherstun, the son, in another new charge, named Rolling Fork. For a number of years two appointments had appeared in this section: Upper Deer Creek, which became Greenville in the North Mississippi Conference; and Lower Deer Creek, which this year is changed to Rolling Fork. Methodism had been making a struggle in the "Mississippi Swamp" as this section was popularly known in that day.

The first record that we have of any church building in this community was at McKinneyville (named for W. C. H. McKinney, one of the earliest settlers), now Anguilla. Reference is made to a church there in 1869 or 1870 named Union Chapel, but the pastor lived in Rolling Fork with Col. W. D. Brown. The first church at Rolling Fork was built this year (1872) while H. W. Featherstun was pastor, and both pastor and wife were teaching in the community school. Dr. E. C. Clements gave the lot for the church, located on the bank of Big Deer Creek, and the church was a union building. It was a large two-story building, the lower floor being used for church services by all the denominations and also for school and public gatherings, while the upper floor was used as a Masonic Hall. This building served until it was destroyed by fire in 1888. Because it was not Methodist property, but union, it was not reported in the Conference records, but a church membership of 43 was reported at the close of this year, and also a Sunday School with 11 teachers and 42 pupils.

McComb

The beginning of another long line of Methodist history was instituted this year at McComb. Three miles south of Summit, in an unsettled pine land section of South Mississippi, the Illinois Central Railroad shops were established in 1871. Col. Henry S. McComb, the president of the New Orleans and Great Northern Railroad, came by train to the old and thriving cotton market town of Summit and proceeded thence by horse and buggy to the spot which he selected as the site for a roundhouse and the shop for the railroad which ran through this part of the country from Chicago to New Orleans. In the Mississippi Conference Territory this railroad passed through the already well-established towns of Canton, Jackson, Crystal Springs, Hazlehurst, Brookhaven, Summit, and Magnolia, but the principal shops for the extreme southern part of the railroad was to be at this out-of-the-way spot which came to be called McComb, or McComb City, for the person who selected it, and the town of McComb came into being.

It was in 1872, just a short time after the town was incorporated, that a small band of Methodists organized the Methodist congregation in McComb. The pastor was the veteran E. R. Strickland, who made this congregation a part of the Bogue Chitto charge which he and B. T. Pearson were serving jointly.

From the beginning this small congregation met and worshiped on the second floor of a building on the corner of the present Canal and Front streets. The lower floor was a blacksmith shop. In 1876 the McComb Methodists united in a union Sunday School with the Presbyterians and used the Presbyterian building for preaching services twice a month also. It was not until 1884, the year of the centenary of American Methodism, that the Methodists built in McComb—but in 1872 the seeds of a vigorous Methodism were planted.

More New Churches

The Hopewell church in Marion county was organized this year. Among the charter members were Daniel Ball, J. M. Foxworth, Solomon Owens, Mrs. Everett Pope, and Henry, Bill and Rufus Regan.

Three congregations were organized this year on the Milldale and Sunflower mission, and some funds were raised to build a church.

A church was built on the Enterprise mission. It is likely that this church was at Stonewall. The Mississippi Cotton Mills had been established in 1871, a plant that developed into what was claimed in 1892 to be the largest of its kind in the South.

High Hill church, five miles south of Forest, was built this year. The congregation was a former Methodist Protestant one, and the pastor was Claiborne McDonald, a former Methodist Protestant minister who was serving the Morton circuit this year and living about six miles southeast of Morton. This building was a rather commodious one, about 40x60 feet in size, and was situated on the site of the present High Hill church. The present building was erected in 1899.

At Natchez the congregation began use of the basement of the present Jefferson Street church the latter part of this year. In 1869 the project of building an adequate house of worship for all the years was started. It was a very slow process, however, because of the stringency of the post-war times and because of the ambitious plans for such a large and substantial building. W. H. Watkins was pastor at Natchez during these four years, 1869 through 1872. It was four years later that the main auditorium came to be used.

Conference Missions

The Conference at the close of the year reported a collection of only $1,650.50 for missions, and forty percent of this amount was for the General Board of Missions. This left less than $1,000 to be divided among the 17 mission charge pastors, and some of these pastors had not received more than $25.00 during the year. In commenting on this grave situation, the Committee report said: "But Methodist preachers have long since learned to trust in God and hope for better times, and thus year after year go out into the highways and hedges, trusting in Him who clothes the lilies of the field."

Seashore Campground

The Seashore Campground, which has been such an influence for more than threescore years and ten now, was first projected in 1872. Dr. Franklin N. Parker of Emory University, and son of Bishop Linus Parker, gives the following account of the origin of this campground:

> "After the close of the Civil War there was a revival of interest in the camp meeting as a means of promoting vital religion. Camp grounds were planned on a larger scale and established on a more permanent basis. The tent gave way to the cottage and the arbour to the tabernacle. Ocean Grove on the New Jersey coast is a conspicuous example.
>
> "Groves by the seaside and mountain lake or shady glen, resounded with the voice of prayer and praise, and the power of the living Gospel turned many to righteousness. The movement was attended by a remarkable outpouring of the Holy Spirit. There was a burst of evangelical song. Fanny Crosby, W. H. Doane, P. P. Bliss, Philip Phillips, Louis Hartsough and many others gave us hymns which are still vocal with the power of Gospel assurance.
>
> "The Seashore Campground is one of the results of this movement. The first official notice of the organization is found in the *New Orleans Christian Advocate,* May 9, 1872. The ground on the beach about two miles west of the center of the city of Biloxi was purchased by the New Orleans District Conference and the first meeting held June 21 to June 28, 1872.
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> "The first Board of Trustees were all from the New Orleans District and

was composed of the following men: Wm. H. Foster, President; R. M. Walmsey, Secretary; John L. Dunnica, Treasurer; J. H. Keller (for whom Keller Lodge is named), Wm. R. Stuart, Dr. J. J. Lyons, Phil Halloran, W. H. Dameron, and S. K. Russ.

"Dr. John F. Foster of the Louisiana Conference states that his father, the late Hon. Wm. H. Foster, was the first to agitate the idea, at first in the face of considerably difficulty. He persevered and soon enlisted the vigorous co-operation of Bishop John C. Keener and the leading ministers of our church in New Orleans.

"The preachers taking part in the first meeting were as follows: From Mississippi—Dr. Cottrell from Columbus, and Wm. H. Watkins and C. G. Andrews; from Alabama—Brothers Sheppard and Coleman; from Louisiana—nearly all the preachers from New Orleans were there, among them the celebrated Wm. V. Tudor and John Mathews, and Bishop Keener spreading large hospitality in his cottage hard by the sea on the beach. The *Advocate* reports the meeting as very successful in the conversion of many."

From other sources we learn that the Seashore tabernacle was just a frame, covered with tarpaulins, and that there were eight or ten tents for the visitors who came from a great distance.

Thomas Nixon

Death invaded the Conference ranks and claimed Thomas Nixon and Ransom J. Jones, Sr., during the year, and also Leonidas R. Redding who had located in 1870.

Thomas Nixon died at Raymond on March 4, 1872. He was born in Kershaw District, South Carolina, October 22, 1793. His father was a local preacher, and while the son was yet young he moved to Maury county, Tennessee. In his seventeenth year Thomas was converted and joined the church at Mt. Pisgah in May 1810. He soon felt the call and was licensed to preach the Gospel. He was admitted on trial into the Tennessee Conference, November 1, 1812, and traveled in that Conference, preaching with remarkable success and acceptability for three years. In 1815 he was appointed to Wilkinson circuit in the Mississippi Territory. In the fall of 1816 he united with eight other ministers in forming what some have called the first legal Conference in

Mississippi although it was the fourth actually to be held. He sustained the local relation from 1821 until 1833 when he was readmitted and was active for a period of three or four years, before locating again. In 1866 he was again readmitted and served as an effective and supernumerary preacher.

In all he served 60 years as a preacher, 20 in the active ministry and 40 in the local ranks. He was twice married. On May 9, 1824, he married Miss Elizabeth Rawles on Pearl River and reared a large family. He settled near Cayuga and in November 1847, at Raymond, he married Miss Cynthia Dean, another estimable Christian lady. As he was closing his eyes on the scenes of this life, he sent back the message, "All is well! Jesus is with me."

Ransom J. Jones, Sr.

The writer of these lines, the youngest son of Ransom J. Jones, Sr., presumes, with pardonable pride, he trusts, to present the entire memoir of his father as written by H. J. Harris, a prominent member of the Conference:

"Ransom J. Jones, Sr., was born in Spartanburg District, South Carolina, April 12, 1808, and died at his residence, in Jasper county, Mississippi, March 23, 1872." (The monument at his grave and the Conference Journal carry the date of March 26, 1872).

"Brother Jones entered the Alabama Conference, as a traveling preacher, in 1833—traveled four years and located. He was married first in 1835 to Miss Abigail McInnis. The meager support yielded to the traveling preachers, the extensive field of operations, necessitating long absence from his family, operated to influence Brother Jones to locate, as he thought, only for a short time, until he could place his family in circumstances that they could, in a measure at least, be self-supporting. In this, like many others, he was disappointed, and was compelled to remain local beyond all his calculations.

"He settled permanently in Jasper county, Mississippi, about the year 1836 or 1837, and devoted himself to agricultural pursuits with success. He was an industrious and frugal man. God blessed and prospered him. Though diligent in business, he was not unmindful of the vows of God that were upon him, but labored extensively in that then new country as a local preacher.

"He was a model local preacher: sound in doctrine, in faith, an able minister of the New Testament. Like many others of whom 'the world is not worthy,' he suffered persecution. Perhaps few men have been called to pass a severer ordeal. Yet he came forth out of all without the smell of fire upon his garments. The writer of this will cherish among the happiest recollections of his early ministry, the fatherly counsel and fraternal co-operation of Brother Jones. He was always ready and willing to aid his pastor, and was a true man to God and the Church.

"Of his first marriage Brother Jones had seven children born to him, only four of whom survive their sainted father and mother. Two of these (Kenneth A. Jones and Ransom J. Jones, Jr.) are now among the most efficient and promising members of the North Mississippi Conference. The other is the wife of our worthy and highly esteemed brother, E. H. Mounger, of the Mississippi Conference. Brother Jones reared his family for God and the church, and through them, 'he, being dead, yet speaketh.'

"He was re-admitted into the traveling connection a member of the Mississippi Conference in December, 1855, and was appointed to the Biloxi district, as presiding elder. This was for the most part missionary ground, an extensive and laborious field, embracing almost the entire region from the seashore—bounded by Pearl River on the West, and the limits of the Conference on the North and East. He was released from this arduous work only when failing strength absolutely demanded. He then devoted himself cheerfully, and rendered service in the undertaking to organize the colored members of our Church into a separate and independent communion. He was the presiding elder for them while they were still under the care of the Mississippi Conference.

"He was married a second time, in 1865, to Miss Malinda J. Benge, of Jasper county, who, with three children still survive him.

"His end was peaceful. He lived to see the salvation of God wonderfully manifested, and died, as only a good man meets his fate. Surely we may write of him: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; they cease from their labors and their works do follow them.'"

So ended the life of this sainted man and father, who died while the writer was not yet two and a half years old; he would shed a tear and lay a flower on his grave; he has been inspired through all these years by his example and noble character, and hopes to meet him on high. One other child, Mrs. L. P. Thornton of Heidelberg, lived to a ripe age and departed this life in 1947.

Leonidas R. Redding

Leonidas R. Redding was born in the State of Georgia, and in his early manhood he practiced law in his native state. At the beginning of the Civil War he entered the army of the Confederate States as a volunteer, and was elected Captain. His health failed and he returned home, and was licensed to preach and was ordained Deacon and Elder in due time. Upon recovery of his health he returned to the army and served as chaplain. In 1866 he was transferred to the Mississippi Conference, and was appointed to the church at Brookhaven, where he lived until 1870. Following his location in 1870, he lived at Hazlehurst where he had been offered the school and where he presumably taught until a few weeks before his death, when he left home for Georgia to visit his father and to die.

While pastor at Brookhaven he taught mathematics at Whitworth Female College and proved himself to be efficient as a teacher. As a lawyer he was successful and reliable; as a preacher he was logical, clear, strong and effective, knowing the doctrines of the Church and its discipline, always leaving the church in better condition than when he found it.

Deaths of Other Ministers and Their Relatives

Florence Jane Sharbrough, sister of the late Malachi B. Sharbrough, died at Brookhaven, January 23, 1872.

John H. Powell, father of Clarence A. Powell, later of the Mississippi Conference, was born in Virginia, March 1, 1824, and died in Yazoo county, February 2, 1872.

Rev. Isaac Wall died in Clinton, La., February 14, 1872; he was born near Bordentown, N. J., his family being Quakers. About 1827 he came to Louisiana, and in 1828 married Miss Sarah Flynn who died in 1833. In 1834 he married Mary Susannah Winans, the eldest daughter of William Winans. He was converted at Bethel campground, and was baptized there by William Winans in October 1828; he was licensed to preach in

1833, and was ordained Deacon in 1837 and Elder in 1843. Nearly all of his children were early carried away by death, except I. D. Wall, who lived till 1929.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hanna Pearce, wife of Collins Pearce, a brother of Rev. Levi Pearce, died in Canton, February 11, 1872, aged 63. She was born in North Carolina.

Rev. James Applewhite was born in North Carolina, November 24, 1792, of Baptist parents, converted there in Robson county in 1809, and moved to Mississippi in 1811. He fought in the War of 1812, and married Miss Mary Ann Regan in April, 1817. He was licensed to preach in June, 1829, and was admitted on trial into the Mississippi Conference in 1830. While serving Leaf River circuit in 1831, he preached 38 times in 28 days. He was ordained Elder by Bishop Morris at Grenada in 1838, located in 1839, and died February 21, 1872. Fred L. Applewhite, a faithful member of the Mississippi Conference since 1908, is a relative.

Dr. Miles Hampton Harper died at Sicily Island, La., March 10, 1872. He was a son of Rev. Miles Harper and Semantha Ford, the daughter of Rev. John Ford. He was born in Marion county, May 12, 1826, graduated in medicine at Louisiana State University in 1850, and married Letitia Ann Lum, Angust 4, 1851.

Rev. Green Collier Fore who was born in Washington county, Alabama, October 15, 1822, died in Rankin county April 10, 1872. He was converted September 11, 1856, in a meeting held by Henry T. Lewis, and was licensed to preach October 25, 1856.

W. C. Chamberlain, a local preacher, the father of Rev. Corydon Chamberlain, died at Ocean Springs.

Mrs. Claiborne McDonald, wife of the pastor at Morton, died near Morton, May 10, 1872.

Losses Among the Laity

Mrs. Elizabeth Holder, a faithful member of the church, and native of South Carolina, died in Jasper county, January 20, aged 81. Her son, *John W. Holder,* born in Jackson county, lived in Jasper county where he died on January 26, 1872, following his mother by six days. Holder's Church has long been a landmark in Jasper county.

Mrs. Julia Ann Norrell, was born in Wilkinson county, and died near Rocky Springs, January 25, 1872. She lived in Rankin county 30 years, was a consistent Christian, and in her going she left several children.

Thomas Scott was born in South Carolina, converted at a camp meeting at the age of 22 and moved to Mississippi in 1852, settling in Wayne county where he had his membership at Salem church near Frost Bridge. For 41 years he was very useful as a member, classleader, and exhorter, according to his pastor, James Sharks.

Judge John R. Enochs, born in North Carolina, January 22, 1791, died at the home of Captain James B. Enochs, Copiah county, February 7, 1872. He came from North Carolina to Tennessee and settled on Mulberry Creek, where he married Ann Steen in 1811 or 1812. He entered the War of 1812, and served in Alabama and Georgia, under Col. Ferguson. He came to Mississippi in 1819 and settled on Whitesand Creek in Lawrence county, but in February, 1827, he moved to Rankin county. His first wife died on January 1, 1849, leaving five sons and six daughters. On August 3, 1850, he married Mrs. Bart, who died August 3, 1865. He was Probate Judge and was a member of the Legislature. The first Methodist church in Lawrence county was organized in his house by Rev. Hardy Mullins, and the second Methodist church in Rankin county was also organized on his premises. His son, Captain James B. Enochs, was shot through the lungs at Shiloh.

Mrs. Catherine Kennard, wife of William K. Kennard, died in Yazoo City on February 26.

B. F. Watkins died near Forest Grove, in Leake county on July 11, aged 72. Born in Georgia, he came to Leake county in 1836.

Mrs. Eliza Pennington died at the residence of her brother, Ishain Beasley, on August 15, aged 68. Born in South Carolina, she came to Mississippi when young. Reared by Methodist parents, she united with the church when 16, and was truly a Christian and a shouting Methodist.

Willie Edward Denson, the oldest son of Capt. J. J. Denson, was killed in a mill explosion near Silver Creek, September 7, 1872. He was the son of Mrs. Ruth Ford Denson, a daughter of Elias Ford and granddaughter of Rev. John Ford. A surviving brother, Robert D. Denson, of Columbia, Mississippi, still remains at this writing.

Miles Harper Ford, grandson of Rev. John Ford, at whose home the Annual Conference of 1818 was held by Bishop McKendree, entered his heavenly reward on October 29, a member of the Memphis Conference.

Mrs. Lewella Campbell, daughter of Rev. Martin Reuter and widow of Rev. Lewell Campbell, died in Jackson, La., on November 6. She was at one time the active head of Elizabeth Academy, her husband being in name the president, while he was the presiding elder of the Vicksburg District.

Mrs. Susan Elizabeth Browning Nixon, wife of Dr. J. C. Nixon and the mother of 15 children, died near Utica, Hinds county, November 22, 1872. She was born in Copiah county, June 30, 1830, married the son of Thomas Nixon, November 15, 1849, and shortly thereafter joined the Methodist Church.

Elias Brown died at his home in Enterprise on November 30, aged 65. Though he did not join the church until 1865, he became a Christian without guile and a faithful steward.

Mrs. Mary W. Carnathan, a native of North Carolina, died in Kemper county December 18, 1872, at the age of 40, being thrown from a wagon by a runaway horse.

Letters From *Advocate* Files

The pastor at Meridian, John A. Ellis, wrote that as a result of the Annual Conference held there he had received 20 members.

A letter from Bishop Keener concerning Centenary College says that repair work was going forward on the tall columns of the main building and that there was a fine student body. Edward McGehee, of Woodville, Miss., had given notes which, with interest, summed up to about $15,000 to help cancel the college's obligations to a former faculty.

Bishop McTyeire made an appeal for funds to rebuild the Publishing House in Nashville, which had burned on February 14, 1872, at a loss of $25,000.

A letter from J. W. Lambuth, missionary to China, says he had baptized 12 persons, and received 6 on probation, one of whom was a Buddhist priest. He acknowledged receipt of $103 from H. H. Montgomery.

A letter from H. P. Lewis says, "My father, Quinea Lewis, and Brother William M. Conerly, who are old and well-tried soldiers of the Cross, filled my appointment perhaps better than I could have done."

U. B. Phillips, pastor of the East Pascagoula circuit, in the *Advocate* of May 16, writes: "The Circuit has a beautiful and comfortable parsonage at a cost of about $1,500," and gives credit to Mrs. Emma Vaughan and Miss Kate Griffin.

Geo. F. Thompson, pastor at Brandon, wrote: "We are hard at work building our church." Col. A. G. Mayers was chairman of the building committee. This is the present beautiful church at Brandon.

Thomas W. Flowers, a former member of the Mississippi Conference, wrote from Montana saying that thirteen Methodist missionaries were there.

How Presiding Elders Traveled

The presiding elder, W. E. M. Linfield, wrote from the Brookhaven District: "I shall have to depend upon the brethren interested for conveyance to the seat of their respective conferences. Please notify me at what station to leave the cars."

Further Gleanings

Bishop Kavanaugh was at Ocean Springs, March 17. The Bishop probably preached at the morning hour and dedicated the church that day. C. F. Gillespie, presiding elder, E. J. Taylor, pastor, and H. B. Urquhart were the other ministers present. The church cost $1,500, of which Bishop Keener raised $300. The communion service and the baptismal bowl were given by Mrs. W. R. Stuart.

The plant of the *Handsboro Democrat*, edited by P. K. Mayers, brother of Hon. A. G. Mayers of Brandon, was destroyed by fire about this time. It was moved to Pascagoula afterwards and continued there for many years under the same editorship. Pascagoula was at that time called Scranton.

Bishop Kavanaugh set aside three Sundays (really three weeks) for the Mississippi Conference: Brookhaven District, April 5-7; Jackson District, April 12-14; Vicksburg District, April 19-21.

District Conferences

The Vicksburg District Conference was held at Fayette, April 19-20, Bishop Kavanaugh being present. The delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: D. L. Rivers, R. D. Howe, W. J. Lum, and E. R. Jones.

The Meridian District Conference met at Shubuta, May 25. Bishop Keener was present.

The Brandon District Conference met at Forest. A committee to plan a district camp meeting was appointed as follows: W. H. Batte, James Martin, J. S. Halbert, A. G. Tadlock, Irvin Miller, L. M. Horton, W. J. Seal, Micajah Wall, Thomas Winstead, Benjamin Thompson, T. J. Feazell, Jared Watts, with G. F. Thompson, pastor, and F. M. Williams, presiding elder.

The Summit District, probably at the District Conference, appointed a committee to purchase a home for the presiding elder, Joseph Nicholson, who was planning to retire. The *Ad-*

vocate gives us the names of the Summit District Stewards for this year:

William Hoover, Summit
C. S. Stewart, St. Helena
James Burris, Amite City
Samuel Hyde, Franklinton
J. E. Smith, Livingston
William Ferguson, Holmesville
J. C. Cole, Greensburg
John Bullard, Ponchatoula
H. C. Newsom, Covington
Rufus Felder, Big Creek

The District Stewards for the Jackson District were Guilford Nicholson, G. W. Galloway, P. B. Cook, D. Bunch, D. C. Langford, John McKay, J. J. Birdsong, A. Coleman, J. L. Jones, J. B. Greaves, A. M. Gurley, Thomas Green, and W. M. Eldridge.

Circuits and Churches

Shubuta circuit had three churches, according to a letter from the pastor, P. H. Napier, who lived at DeSoto: Shubuta, 100 members, a Methodist building; DeSoto, 50 members, a community church building; Quitman, 25 members, a Baptist building, the Methodist church having been burned by the Union soldiers during the war.

The Carthage circuit had no houses of worship. The pastor, J. M. Weems, was trying to build 5 churches and a campground; he had 11 appointments on the charge, and he raised $1,500 at Carthage for a church building.

Ramsey's Chapel, on the West Pascagoula circuit, was being supplied by Irvin Roberts, local preacher, who raised the assessments in full. This church later was named Union, then New Chapel, and was finally united with the former New Prospect church into Bonnie Chapel.

There were 7 churches on the Chickasaha Mission, and 37 admissions to the church. This was served that year by Henry T. Jones, who later became a leading spirit and distinguished preacher in the Congregational Methodist Church which had considerable strength in some parts of the country. He was a brother of Ransom J. Jones, Sr., the father of the writer.

Revivals and Camp Meetings

On the Mount Carmel circuit revivals were as follows:

Mount Carmel, 9 days, 5 additions; Mount Moriah, 2 days; Dry Creek, 13 additions; Santee, 6 days, 13 additions.

On the Trenton circuit, R. A. Sibley, pastor, the meeting at Boykin church lasted 9 days, and resulted in 14 conversions and accessions; at Caney Creek church, there were 3 or 4 conversions, and 7 accessions.

A revival at Steele's Chapel on the Rocky Springs circuit resulted in 25 conversions.

Shady Grove, on the Paulding circuit, witnessed a meeting in which there were 18 conversions; Moss Point received 26 members into the church. Waynesboro had 16 additions to the church in the meeting there.

In October Henry J. Harris and W. E. M. Linfield give separate accounts of the first camp meeting at Crystal Springs. It was held September 11-18, but was continued after that at the church in town, and resulted altogether in 42 additions. There were 8 tenters. The meeting was well attended, with about 2500 present on Sunday. Practically all the preachers of the district were there for District Conference, as was also C. G. Andrews, from Centenary College. The place for this campground was selected by Isaac Hennington and Fletcher Enochs.

The Frost Bridge camp meeting began on Thursday before the second Sunday in October. There were 17 additions, making a total of 86 for the quarter, there having been 43 received during a meeting held by Dr. T. S. West and Thomas Chapman, local preachers.

The Salem camp meeting was held at the same time as the Frost Bridge camp meeting. In a report of the camp meeting it was said: "The last night at the close of the meeting we had a Benjamin's mess. Our aged brother (J. M.) Wimbush, preacher in charge of the Greene Mission, conducted the exercises, and there were 14 additions and 10 conversions that night."

CHAPTER IV

1873

Annual Conference at Brandon

The Annual Conference met at Brandon, December 11-17, 1872. Both the courthouse and the Presbyterian Church were used during the session. The new church at Brandon was not finished. Col. A. J. Frantz furnished the Conference each day with a printed copy of the proceedings.

Bishop H. H. Kavanaugh presided over the Conference for the second time in succession. There were 72 clerical members present during the session, and 17 laymen, as follows: Josiah D. Nettles, H. Griffin, W. G. Longmire, James E. Jagers, Marcus Lenoir, Isaac V. Enochs, Edwin G. Cook, John S. Beasley, J. Harvey Thompson, John T. Cameron, E. C. Postell, Ely R. Jones, T. S. West, Irvin Miller, J. H. Hood, A. G. Mayers, and J. S. Holbert.

C. G. Andrews was elected Secretary; J. A. B. Jones, Assistant; John T. Cameron, Recording; and J. J. Smylie, Statistical Secretary. The hours for meeting and adjourning were 9:00 A.M. and 1:30 P.M. The Conference sat with open doors during the regular examination of character.

Committees

The Committee on Public Worship was composed of F. M. Williams, presiding elder; G. F. Thompson, the pastor; and Hon. A. G. Mayers, a prominent churchman, citizen, and lawyer. The Committee on Memoirs was composed of J. G. Jones, B. Jones, E. H. Mounger, and H. J. Harris.

Sunday Schools

The report of the Committee on Sunday Schools was of interest. It spoke of the Uniform Lesson System growing in favor wherever used and of other denominations adopting it. It urged the use of the catechism around the fireside and in the Sunday School. It deplored the lack of warm, comfortable buildings and of earnest, self-sacrificing officers and teachers, oftentimes causing Sunday Schools not to be held in the winter. It urged the setting apart of a Sunday School Agent, or evangelist "whose duty it would be to visit the various fields and address the schools and congregations on Sunday School interests"; in fact, it requested by resolution that J. W. Harmon, who had been Bible Agent, be given this appointment, which was done. By resolution it called for the holding of District Sunday School Conventions and the reporting of conversions among the Sunday School children, and it requested a Sunday School Anniversary at the Annual Conference the next year.

Board of Stewards

To enlarge the facilities of the various local Boards of Stewards, the Annual Conference added the following particulars to the financial plan then in practice in the local church:

"1. The Board of Stewards may select a secretary outside of their own number.

"2. They may employ as collectors as many discreet ladies as they can profitably employ.

"3. They shall report to each Quarterly Meeting the assessments and payments of the individual members of the church.

"4. They shall make, to the Fourth Quarterly Conference, a consolidated report of their financial accounts with the members.

". . . . the Presiding Elders will see that the recording stewards of each work comply with the *Discipline*, and forward to this Board (the Annual Conference Joint Board of Finance) the financial report of the work of the whole year."

Religious Literature

The Report of the Committee on Religious Literature, signed by W. L. C. Hunnicutt, is one of the most interesting in all the early Journals. We quote in part:

> "The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is too young to have yet produced a standard literature of her own. Not yet thirty years of age, though she numbers over half a million souls, it could not be expected that she should exhibit a very extensive or profound theological literature. She has given more attention to the conversion of souls than the writing of books.
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> "Methodist preachers are, for the most part, too active to write much. . . . Notwithstanding our youth as a Church, and the untowardness of our circumstances, the M. E. Church, South is laying a good foundation for an original Christian literature of her own."

The following are statements concerning books by members of our own Conference:

> "Winans' Discourses are a treasury of thought, and compare favorably with those of the greatest divines in the world. . . . The various works of Richard Abbey, from the *Ecclesiastical Constitutions* to *The City of God* and *The Churchmakers*, are the result of much patient and laborious thought, and ably discuss many things fundamental in the doctrine and polity of the Church. . . . *The Introduction of Protestantism into the Southwest* by John G. Jones, is a valuable contribution to the historical literature of the Church, while the *Essay on Dancing* by the same author is a most efficacious antidote to that very fascinating and popular vice."

The Colleges

During the year important and needed repairs were made on the buildings at Centenary College, which under the leadership of C. G. Andrews had the largest enrollment yet since its reorganization. Its physical property was valued at $200,550.

Port Gibson Collegiate Institute was in charge of the scholarly and eminently worthy Prof. Robert S. Ricketts.

East Mississippi Female College at Meridian, only a year old, at a cost of $5,000 or $6,000, erected buildings to suit its present needs and had an enrollment of 70 students in charge of Prof. Rice, formerly connected with Florence University.

Whitworth College was represented as having "suddenly grown into an importance rarely attained in so short a time." A liberal endowment was stated as its greatest need.

Indian Mission Proposed

A petition was sent to the Annual Conference by the Philadelphia Circuit, signed by the pastor and Quarterly Conference members, asking that a suitable missionary be appointed to preach to and instruct the Choctaw Indians (about 3,000 in number) still living in the bounds of the Brandon and Meridian districts.

History of Methodism

The history of Methodism in the Mississippi Conference had not had the attention that its importance deserved, but the Conference of 1872 adopted the following resolution, signed by F. M. Featherstun, Whitfield Harrington, and W. H. Watkins:

> "That the Mississippi Annual Conference do hereby request the Rev. John G. Jones to prepare for publication a complete History of Methodism, as connected with the Mississippi Conference."

Sunday Services at Conference and Ordinations

An editorial by Linus Parker, Editor of the *Advocate,* says, "Bishop Kavanaugh preached one of his great sermons at 11 o'clock—by watch the longest sermon we ever listened to—being one hour and thirty-five minutes in the delivery; but one of the shortest, as far as the consciousness of spiritual food to feed and to save a whole world."

In the afternoon J. A. Godfrey preached a practical and profitable discourse. Following this service Bishop Kavanaugh ordained those present who had been elected deacons and elders.

Admission and Transfers

Admitted on Trial: John W. Ellison, from the Yazoo circuit; Calvin C. Watkins, in Deacon's orders, from Fayette; Joseph B. K. Smith and James W. McLaurin from DeKalb; Thomas S. West, in Elder's orders, from Wayne circuit; and Edward Hicks, from Meridian Station.

Readmitted: Daniel A. J. Parker.

Received by transfer: Reynolds S. Trippett, from the Louisiana Conference; Ralph Bradley, Robert Burnip, Wm. John Bullivant, and Ransom J. Jones, Jr., from the North Mississippi Conference; and Oliver P. H. Davis was received from the Congregational Methodist Church.

Discontinued: Alexander Trotter, by his own request.

Located: Jarratt W. McNeil, John Lusk, and Bascom T. Pearson.

Full Connection and Ordinations

Admitted into Full Connection: George M. Gilmore, Jno. W. Hall, Daniel G. W. Ellis, each in Deacon's orders; Jacob H. Holland, in Elder's orders; and Thomas B. Walden, Hiram R. Singleton, James S. Parker, and David P. Bradford.

Ordained Deacon: James J. Smylie, Thomas B. Walden, Hiram R. Singleton, James S. Parker, and David P. Bradford, traveling preachers; and Edward Hicks, Abner B. Ward, Benjamin D. Sellers, Robert J. Hopkins, William D. Dominick, and Joseph B. K. Smith, local preachers.

Ordained Elder: Lyman Carley, a traveling preacher; and Warren C. Black, local preacher on trial.

Superannuates and Supernumerary

New Superannuates: John G. Jones and John B. Bowen.

New Supernumerary: Wm. Spillman, John C. Brogan, and Wm. G. Millsaps.

Strenuous Times

The year 1873 was a hard one for the ministers and the churches. It marked the beginning of a period of lean years caused by a panic and financial depression that prevailed throughout the country, and was especially hard in the South where attempts at reconstruction were heroically under way. The general financial collapse was severe in its effects in Mississippi, and affected the church program in various ways.

The only church that we have record of being built this year was the reconstruction of the church at Edwards, and the only parsonage that is reported for the first time is one of the Dover charge valued at $400.

Appointments and Charges

At the close of the 1872 Annual Conference in Brandon there were eight districts with the presiding elders as follows: Brandon, Francis M. Williams; Brookhaven, W. E. M. Linfield; Jackson, Henderson H. Montgomery; Meridian, Wm. B. Hines; Seashore, Charles F. Gillespie; Summit, Archibald B. Nicholson, the only new presiding elder, succeeding Joseph Nicholson; Vicksburg, John A. B. Jones; and Woodville, James L. Forsyth.

Of special interest in the appointments this year is the fact that Richard Abbey this year was serving the first of a long series of years as Special Agent of the Publishing House.

High Records

The largest number of adults baptized this year were on the Mount Olivet charge in the Jackson District, where Alexander M. Campbell was pastor, and DeKalb charge in the Meridian District, where Daniel G. W. Ellis was pastor. Each reported 45.

The largest number of churches on a circuit was Clarke (in Clarke county) with 13. However, these 13 churches would accommodate a total of only 1,975 people, while the 7 churches of the DeKalb charge would accommodate 2,500 people, the largest number of "sittings" in the Conference.

The largest number of "sittings" in a station church was 800, at Vicksburg.

The highest church valuations were $25,000 at Natchez, $16,000 at Port Gibson, and $12,000 at Vicksburg.

The $1,600 assessment at Vicksburg was the highest pastor's salary (with $1,466 being paid), while only nine churches assessed as much as $1,000 for their pastor: Vicksburg, Jackson, Port Gibson, Woodville, Yazoo City, Canton, Clinton, La., Brookhaven, and Meridian. Only the first five actually paid as much as $1,000 on account of the depression.

Gilmer Church Organized

The Gilmer church in Covington county, seven miles west of Taylorsville, was organized during the year with 16 charter members: Alsberry McDonald and wife, John McLeod and wife, John Carter and wife, Archie McDonald, W. M. Stubbs and wife, Thomas Chatham and wife, Nancy Powers, Mrs. Nancy Anderson, John Ellzey, and Susan Gaddis.

The first meetings of this church were held in the log home of William Long, the grandfather of Huey P. Long who was governor of Louisiana and United States Senator. This church was on the Taylorsville Mission which was supplied at the time, probably by Henry Parker. A building was not erected here until 1878 nor a Sunday School organized until 1880, it seems.

Edwards Church

During the year the church at Edwards was torn down and its site changed from the plot of ground that is now the center of the town cemetery to the present church location. Much of the lumber from the old building was used in the new building. This church, erected in 1873, served until 1896 when, to give way to a newer building, it was moved across the street and converted into a residence, in which capacity it serves today.

The first Methodist church at Edwards was a log house built in 1828 by William Roberts on the lots that gradually became the cemetery. The log church was torn down in 1849 and a frame church built on the same spot. This frame church had a balcony for the slaves until it was torn down in 1873 and rebuilt on the present church site.

It is an interesting fact of history that a daughter of William Roberts married James J. Dromgoole, the great-grandson of Edward Dromgoole who was converted from Catholicism under the preaching of John Wesley in Sligo, Ireland. Because it was dangerous for Edward Dromgoole to be a Methodist preacher in Ireland, after having been trained for the Catholic priesthood, John Wesley advised him to come to America and gave him a letter of introduction to Francis Asbury. Edward Dromgoole was a member of the Christmas Conference at Baltimore in 1784.

Items of Interest

In the early part of the year John G. Jones through the *Advocate* requested information for the history that the Conference had asked him to write.

The Seashore District stewards were called to meet at Mount Zion on the Mount Carmel charge, January 18, 1872, by C. F. Gillespie, P. E. Long distances had to be traveled to reach the place, which was about four miles from Prentiss, a mile from Mount Carmel.

Rev. A. B. Stark, former president of Port Gibson College, was organizing a party to visit Europe. Few, if any, Mississippians were able financially to make the journey.

A letter from J. W. Lambuth reports that Dsau Sier Whoa, whose English name was Charles K. Marshall, and who has been referred to as receiving his education in America, was stationed in Soochow. A letter came from Mrs. J. W. Lambuth concerning Woman's Work in China. Young J. Allen and J. W. Lambuth had combined their schools into one at Soochow.

The churches on the South Warren circuit the present year were Asbury, Bethel, and Bovina.

The 39th anniversary of the Raymond Sunday School was observed. Thomas J. Hunter was superintendent and A. B. Stewart was pastor. This places the date of the organization as 1834.

On the occasion of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. William Griffin at Moss Point three grandchildren were baptized by the pastor, P. H. Napier.

District Conferences

The Meridian District Conference was held at Meridian, April 24-26. Bishop Kavanaugh was there, and he preached on each of the three days.

The Woodville District Conference was held at Woodville with Bishop Kavanaugh present at this Conference also. The aged Judge Edward McGehee, a most prominent citizen of that place, was too feeble to attend.

The Seashore District Conference was held at Ocean Springs, June 4-6. Bishop Kavanaugh was present and ordained W. G. Evans a local elder on Sunday. George Wood was the secretary.

The Brookhaven District Conference was held at Beauregard, with Bishop Kavanaugh presiding.

The Brandon District Conference was held at Morton, July 10-12, with F. M. Williams presiding. W. M. Thornton was the secretary. L. T. Fitzhugh, a prominent educator, was present in the interest of Whitworth, of which he was later president.

The Vicksburg District Conference was held at Port Gibson, July 26-28. W. E. Holloman was the secretary.

Colleges

Centenary College at Jackson, La., the joint property of the Mississippi and the Louisiana Conferences, closed a prosperous year with a brilliant commencement in July, and entered another year which promised to be equally as prosperous under the presidency of Charles Green Andrews.

Whitworth Female College, at Brookhaven, under the presidency of H. F. Johnson was still growing in public favor. It had 200 students in the spring and property valued at $50,000.

Prof. Robert S. Ricketts resigned as president of Port Gibson Collegiate Academy during the year, and it seems not to have opened in the fall of 1873. The college was the property of the Conference, but the lease granted to Benjamin Jones had not expired, and efforts were being made to relieve him of the obligations of the lease and to bring the institution back under the direct control of the Conference.

Sharon Female College, under the presidency of W. S. Wingfield, local preacher, was having a hard time. Ever since the boarding department burned a few years ago, the school had been but a shadow of its former self.

East Mississippi Female College, the new college at Meridian, under the presidency of J. W. Adkisson, a transfer from the Missouri Conference, was doing well and now had property worth eight or nine thousand dollars. Other members of the faculty were Prof. and Mrs. Rice, Miss Annie Williams, and Miss Edmonia Pendleton.

Millwood Female Institute, at Jackson, La., under the presidency of Rev. John C. Miller, while not Conference property, was recommended as a Christian institution and worthy of patronage, and the Conference appointed a visiting committee.

In April 1873 the announcement was made that the trustees of Vanderbilt University, D. C. Kelly, secretary, had accepted the offer made by Cornelius Vanderbilt of the sum of $500,000.

Centenary College

Centenary College was the leading school the Methodists had in this section of the Church, and great efforts were being made to carry on the work of the college; buildings were being repaired and renovated as best the limited finances would allow. The Board of Trustees of the college was distributed throughout its territory, in the States of Mississippi and Louisiana, and their names are here given:

Bishop John C. Keener, Pres.	New Orleans
Rev. and Hon. J. H. Muse	St. Helena
Hon. Edward McGehee	Woodville
Rev. J. C. Miller	Jackson, La.
Rev. R. J. Harp	New Orleans
Rev. Linus Parker	New Orleans
D. C. Hardee	Clinton, La.
Hon. E. J. Gray	Iberville, La.
Sam J. Norwood	Simsport, La.
Rev. H. H. Montgomery	Sharon
Rev. J. A. B. Jones	Port Gibson
Robert M. Walmesley	New Orleans
Rev. C. G. Andrews	Jackson, La.
Rev. J. A. Godfrey	Clinton, La.
Hon. John McVea	Clinton, La.
Hon. E. T. Merrick	New Orleans, La.
W. H. N. Magruder	Baton Rouge, La.
Rev. J. O. Fuqua	Baton Rouge, La.
Hon. W. L. Nugent	Jackson, Miss.
Rev. J. L. Forsyth	Jackson, Miss.
A. K. Farrar	Kingston, Miss.
Chas. G. McGehee	Wilkinson, Co.
Rev. W. H. Watkins	Natchez, Miss.
Rev. Jno. A. Ellis	Meridian, Miss.
Josiah D. Nettles	Baton Rouge, La.
Wilmot H. Goodale	Baton Rouge, La.
Rev. A. E. Goodwyn	Baton Rouge, La.

Camp Meetings and Campgrounds

The New Orleans District Camp Meeting (Seashore) began on Friday, August 1, with a debt of $1,300 on the campground, and there was need for $2,500.

The first sermon of the camp meeting was preached on scheduled time and there were four sermons daily. There were 50 persons converted during the meeting, and it is reported that 1,500 were present on Sunday, which witnessed the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper at 11 o'clock.

Preachers present from the Alabama Conference were E. Wadsworth, Henry B. Urquhart, H. D. Moore, J. W. Rush, J. E. Faust, A. J. Coleman, and Preston Nash. Those from the Mississippi Conference were W. H. Watkins, C. G. Andrews, P. H. Napier, C. F. Gillespie, W. H. Leith, W. G. Evans, L. E., Alex Scarborough, L. P., Henry P. Bowen, G. T. Vickers, Joseph Nicholson, D. M. Dunlap, L. P., John B. Higginbotham, and Dr. T. S. West, L. P. Preachers from the Louisiana Conference were: A. E. Goodwyn, C. F. Evans, P. M. Goodwyn, Christian Keener, W. V. Taylor, T. B. White, J. T. Sawyer, John Mathews, W. V. Tudor, J. A. Ivey, J. S. White, J. B. A. Ahrens, J. G. Crouter, and Linus Parker. From the Texas Conference was Dr. J. B. Walker, formerly of the Mississippi Conference; and three from the Methodist Episcopal Church were present: Messrs. Daley, Booth, Morrow. This made a total of 38 ministers present.

The Hennington Camp Meeting, using the name the first time, was held at Crystal Springs, September 3-11, on the self-supporting plan. Meals were furnished for fifty cents, and beds for fifty cents—a price that required faith in the time of depression prevailing then. There were 28 tents as compared with eight the previous year. There were 33 additions to the church. The 23 ministers present were W. E. M. Linfield, C. G. Andrews, J. T. Heard, Charles B. Galloway, A. B. Stewart, E. R. Strickland, J. J. Clark, C. Chamberlain, G. F. Thompson, E. H. Mounger, Andrew Day, F. W. Sharbrough, R. B. Downer, A. B. Nicholson, E. F. Mullins, R. J. Jones, Jr., W. E. Ballard, Pinckney A. Johnston, Edward Hicks, J. J. Smiley, J. W. McNeil, B. T. Pearson, and Wm. Pearce, the last three being local preachers.

A camp meeting was held on the Philadelphia circuit, probably in early October.

At the new campground established on the Paulding circuit in

1872, there were at the 1873 camp meeting 25 regular tents, a number of cloth tents, and 2,500 people present. There were 36 additions to the church. The itinerant preachers present were W. B. Hines, U. B. Phillips, Geo. M. Gilmore, E. J. Taylor, T. S. West, A. Y. Armstrong, and L. P. Meador, while the local preachers were John Watts, a noted lawyer, John R. Cox, D. A. Little, and A. M. Fikes.

The preachers at the Salem camp meeting this year were C. F. Gillespie, P. H. Napier, David Merchant, and John Ward, a local preacher.

Revivals

Outstanding revivals were held at DeSoto and Soule's Chapel on the Clarke circuit during the summer with 67 conversions and 49 additions. Those who assisted in the meetings were James M. Gann, J. H. Holland, N. S. Gunn, local preacher, and P. Brazie, local preacher, at DeSoto; and Horace Dubose, A. Trotter, and H. S. Gilmore at Soule's Chapel.

At Enterprise during the meeting there were 48 additions. The preachers were W. B. Hines, J. M. Gann, John D. Hays, A. Y. Armstrong, G. M. Gilmore, J. H. Holland, and A. J. Coleman.

At Stonewall Mission, in Clarke county, established at the Annual Conference of 1872 with 12 members, there was a great revival in September and 42 were added. This church seems to have been organized in 1872. William Spillman, a supernumerary, was serving the mission, and had increased the membership to 22.

Charles B. Galloway, pastor at Yazoo City, had a meeting in that church and received 28 members.

Raymond enjoyed a revival conducted by the pastor, A. B. Stewart, in which there were 15 additions to the membership.

Moss Point reported a revival in April, P. H. Napier, the pastor, was assisted by J. E. Faust of Mobile, and Mr. Mitchell, of the Baptist Church.

Revivals were reported on the Holmesville charge, Pike county, at Holmesville, China Grove, and Muddy Springs; and also on the Yazoo Circuit, at Locust Grove, Tranquil, Midway, and Benton.

Revivals were reported on the Amite circuit at Adams, Salem, Liberty, Woodland; and preachers engaged in these meetings were probably local preachers: Messrs. Jagers, Tarver, Wood, King, Givens, and Germany.

Some Deaths During the Year

Rev. Thomas C. Brown, M.D., of near Fayette, died early in the year, aged 73, and was buried in Bethel cemetery. Born in Georgia, he came to Adams county in 1805, and then to Wilkinson county. At the age of 18 he went to Hampstead Academy, Franklin, Tennessee, and in 1819 he was converted at a camp meeting near Franklin. He studied medicine for two years in Woodville, but was licensed to preach in 1823 and ordained deacon in 1825. He entered the itineracy but located in 1830 because of some pulmonary trouble. He was married three times, his last wife being Mrs. Martha Ann Liddell (mother of the late R. R. Liddell, a faithful layman), whom he married in 1859, having settled near Fayette in 1857.

Mrs. Laura A. McCann, wife of Rev. John McCann and daughter of Edmund Goff, died on January 17 at the age of 39, preceding her father about three months.

Mrs. Florence Anna Sides, daughter of John R. Lambuth and his second wife, Mrs. Laura Terry Lambuth, died on January 18, 1873.

Mrs. Tabitha S. Miller, a native of Middle Tennessee, died on January 20, at the age of 44. Her maiden name was Watson, and her first marriage was to a Mr. Gordon. She joined the Methodist Church at Jackson, Louisiana, under the ministry of David O. Shattuck.

Mrs. Susan McCall, a daughter of Jeremiah and Phoebe Coleman and a descendant of Rev. Samuel Swayze, died in Tensas parish, La., on February 5, at the age of 73. Her father assisted in organizing the First Presbyterian church in Mississippi, Bethel, near old Uniontown, four miles north of Cannonsburg, known as Calledar's Meetinghouse; here Lorenzo Dow mentions the Methodists holding a quarterly meeting. She married Dougald McCall in 1826, and they lived near Oakland College. The husband died in 1854.

John Garraway, a Methodist for more than 50 years, died in Perry county on March 23, 1873.

Mrs. Kate Ricketts, the first wife of Robert Scott Ricketts, long a teacher in Mississippi, died at the age of 20 at Port Gibson on March 24. They had married in 1871.

Mrs. Amanda F. Sharbrough, wife of Rev. F. W. Sharbrough, died March 29 near Brookhaven. Born in Claiborne county in 1832, she joined the church in 1851, married in 1852, and became the mother of the late Malachi B. Sharbrough of the Mississippi Conference and other children.

Edmond Goff, who was born in North Carolina in 1794, died at Newbern, Alabama, on April 28, 1873. He came to Mississippi and lived in Jackson county. He married Lucretia Wells in 1824. At the time of his death he was making his home with his daughter's husband, Rev. John W. McCann, mentioned above.

Nannie Early Harris, daughter of Henry J. Harris, prominent member of the Conference, died on May 2.

Washington Flurry, 20-year-old son of Rev. John A. Flurry and wife, Frances E. Flurry, affectionately called Aunt Fanny, was drowned in Red Creek on May 10, while floating logs down the creek. He made his home in his youth with his uncle, Henry Flurry, and was the oldest brother of the late Rev. S. E. Flurry.

Mrs. Olivia Sims, widow of Rev. Lewis A. Sims and daughter of Robert Babington, died on June 30.

W. W. Millsaps, son of William and Rebecca Millsaps, died at Hazlehurst on July 6 at the age of 69. He was born in Smith county and married Miss Mary Wright. He joined what is now called Pleasant Valley church. Two of his sons were ministers: William R. Millsaps and John J. Millsaps.

Mrs. Elizabeth Galloway, wife of Dr. C. B. Galloway, died in Canton July 16, 1873. She was a member of the Baptist Church and the mother of Bishop Galloway.

Abner McGuire, a native of Pearlington, also died in July. He was 20 years old and had joined the Methodists in 1866 when 13 years old.

Julia Ann Holifield, daughter of Rev. Henry Brown, and wife of Hays Holifield, died on September 19. She was born in Lawrence county, and was nearly 57.

Mrs. Josephine Bowie Jones, wife of Rev. John W. Jones, since February 9, 1870, died on Wolfe Lake on October 30. She was received into Benton church in 1866 by W. B. Lewis, at the age of 21.

Mrs. Mary Burrus McGehee died near Woodville on October 30, being 61 years of age. She was a daughter of John C. Burrus.

Mrs. Harriet McDonald Henson, a member of Good Hope church in Leake county, died on December 10 at the age of 75. Her father, Willis McDonald, moved from near Augusta, Georgia, to Jefferson county when she was an infant. Shortly thereafter he moved to Louisiana for 11 years, and finally to Clinton, Mississippi. She married William Henson in 1816. He was killed by one of his servants. Left with a large family she succeeded well in rearing them. She was the aunt of William H. Watkins and the grandmother of Mrs. M. L. Burton.

Mrs. Martha Cosby Ricketts, widow of R. B. Ricketts, once of the Conference, and father of Prof. Ricketts, died at Godbold's Well on December 26, aged 70. A native of Wilkinson county, she grew up under the influence of Bethel campground. Her first marriage was to John C. Christian of Clinton, Louisiana.

CHAPTER V

1874

Conference at Brandon

The Annual Conference met December 10-15, 1873, at Brandon for the second year in succession. Presiding was Bishop William May Wightman, on his first visit to this Conference. Opening the Conference, he read Romans 10, announced a hymn, and led in prayer. There were 81 clerical members present during the Conference and 21 laymen, a larger number of each than attended the last Conference.

An account of the Conference appeared in the *New Orleans Advocate,* probably written by Dr. Linus Parker, editor:

> "On Tuesday morning at something after ten oclock, leaving the Alabama Conference, still in session, we departed from Selma, in the good company of Bishop Wightman and Brother Daves, for Brandon. It was a pleasant day, through some very sightly and rich country for the first few hours, through Demopolis, and in view of the Black Warrier, and then across the Bigbee and after awhile at Meridian, and there and on, with preachers constantly entering the cars, until at midnight we reached the Brandon station.
>
> "Hacks are there waiting, and Brother Thompson, the pastor, is also there to direct, and in an hour we are at our old quarters, at Colonel A. J. Frantz's, the editor and proprietor of *The Brandon Republican.* The Colonel himself came to the depot for his guests, and gave us a cordial and generous reception. We were right glad to be once more under his hospitable roof, and to renew the acquaintance of the last year with his accomplished wife and interesting children. Colonel Frantz is a host indeed in the entertainment of a Conference, publishes a daily of the proceedings, and in many ways contributes to the comfort and interest of the occasion.
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> "The Conference was held in the courthouse, and was opened at half past nine o'clock, December 10, by Bishop Wightman. C. G. Andrews was elected

Secretary, J. A. B. Jones, J. T. Cameron, Esq., assistants, and J. J. Smylie statistical secretary.

"In the examination of character the preachers do not retire, but report their collections, and make such statements as may be required of their work. Among the oldest and most venerable members present are J. G. Jones and James Shanks. The latter is considerably over seventy, and is still effective. The former addressed the Conference in reference to the history of Methodism in Mississippi. He stated that he had one volume ready for the press, bringing the history down from 1799 to 1814, and that it would require three volumes in all to bring the narrative down to within twenty years of the present time. We doubt not it will be a work of great interest, and an important contribution to the history of Methodism in the southwest.

"W. H. Watkins, H. H. Montgomery, J. A. Godfrey, H. J. Harris, W. E. M. Linfield, G. F. Thompson, C. G. Andrews, John A. B. Jones, J. T. Heard, F. M. Featherstun, William B. Hines, H. F. Johnson, W. L. C. Hunnicutt and B. Jones are still at their posts and most effective in the business of the Conference. There is here a fine class of young and middle-aged men, and altogether a large amount of excellent material for the itinerant ranks.

"On Friday four were received into full connection. Bishop Wightman's address was very forcible and telling, in which he especially emphasized the importance of knee-work, of pastoral visiting, and of deep spirituality. The absolute and highest essential of preaching power is the power of the Holy Ghost. We are glad to see that the Bishops are giving particular attention to the reception of young preachers, not slurring over the solemn vows, but putting the questions with emphasis, and with ample admonition and instruction.

"Ten young men were admitted on trial—four of them from the Vicksburg district—a fine class, we judge, from the representations made of them. One of them, Lewis R. Featherstun, is the second son whom our brother, F. M. Featherstun, has given to the ministry in this Conference. In connection with his case Bishop Wightman made affecting mention of the recent admission of his own son into the South Carolina Conference. Methodist preachers know well the toils and sacrifices of the itineracy, but they count it a happiness and honor, nevertheless, to give their sons to this noble work.

"It has been a gratification to us at this Conference to meet Dr. C. K. Marshall, of Vicksburg, as we sometimes write it, but more truly of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He has been seriously ill from over work during the summer, but is recovering his wanted elasticity, and is almost himself again.

"This is Bishop Wightman's first episcopal visit to the Mississippi Conference, and the impression, we believe, is altogether favorable. He is the urbane and accomplished Christian gentleman in the chair, and in all his offical intercourse with the preachers. His addresses in the Conference-room and his preaching are characterized by good taste, vigorous and broad thought, and by earnestness, pathos and unction. He has secured the respect and love of the preachers and people.

"The Conference was held in Brandon last year, and now again the good people are profuse and overflowing in their entertainment of the preachers and lay delegates.

"The Methodist church, finished and dedicated during the past summer, is a gem of neatness and beauty, symmetrical in its outward proportions, from foundations to spire seventy-six feet high. The entire cost, including $500 for furnishing, was $6,850. We are glad to say that the church is paid for, the last item of indebtedness having been met on Sunday morning by a collection of $460. For this handsome enterprise much credit is due to the pastor, G. F. Thompson, to Colonel A. G. Mayers, General Robert Lowry, and to other liberal citizens of Brandon.

"We notice a very fair attendance of lay delegates among whom are J. T. Cameron of Canton, W. L. Nugent of Jackson, Thomas Reed of Fayette, W. G. Longmire, L. K. Barbour of Woodville, E. C. Postell of Canton, Colonel Mayers and General Lowry of Brandon, and Rev. J. E. Jagers of Liberty.

"The delegates to the General Conference were elected on Saturday. The Conference is entitled to five clerical and five lay delegates. On the first ballot all the five clerical delegates were elected, to wit: C. G. Andrews, H. F. Johnson, H. H. Montgomery, W. E. M. Linfield, and J. T. Heard. There was but one balloting for reserves, resulting in the election of W. H. Watkins, W. L. C. Hunnicutt, and William B. Hines. The following were elected lay delegates: A. G. Mayers, Rev. J. E. Jagers, W. L. Nugent, Thomas Christian, and J. H. Thompson. Reserves: E. C. Postell, Rev. Irvin Miller, L. K. Barbour, George Nicholson, and S. B. Watts. An excellent delegation.

"The missionary meeting on Saturday night was an occasion of more than usual interest. W. H. Watkins made a strong appeal in connection with the reading of his report as treasurer. Brother Daves presented the claims of the Mexican Mission with much fervor and power, and C. K. Marshall, though in infirm health, made one of the best speeches of his life. The collection was not well managed, but, in view of all the circumstances, it was perhaps not expedient to urge the matter very persistently. We have not heard how much was realized, but the sum could hardly have exceeded $200. The missionary collection of the Conference this year sums up $1,847.40.

"On Sunday morning Bishop Wightman preached at the Methodist church, and ordained the following local deacons: Alexander L. McBride, Albert T. Tidwell, John Newton Henry. After the three o'clock sermon the following elders were ordained: H. Walter Featherstun, John W. Hall, James M. Weems, Irvin Miller. We heard an excellent sermon at eleven A. M. in the Presbyterian church, preached by J. T. Heard, and another in the Methodist church at night, by W. E. M. Linfield. We learned that one person was converted while Bro. Linfield was preaching. H. H. Montgomery preached in the Presbyterian church at night. His sermon and that of the Bishop were highly commended by those whose privilege it was to hear them."

In addition to those mentioned above Jesse Harper was ordained a local deacon and William Wood was ordained a local elder.

Committees

The several committees of the Conference and the chairmen were: *Public Worship,* F. M. Williams; *Finance,* W. L. Nugent; *Sunday Schools,* E. H. Mounger; *Bible Cause,* J. A. Godfrey; *Religious Literature,* John G. Jones; *Education,* W. L. C. Hunnicutt; *Temperance,* H. R. Singleton; *Publishing Minutes,* J. T. Heard; and *Memoirs,* John G. Jones.

Preachers and Debt

The report of the Joint Board of Finance went on record as asserting that the point of most importance in the economy of the Church is the full support of the preachers. This was probably occasioned by the fact that 1873 was a year that began a financial depression. The pastors received a total salary of more than $3,000 less than the year before, and the pastors averaged less than $400.00 this year. Then the Joint Board of Finance continued with a very wise word:

"We recommend that the members of our Conference never go in debt; that they never leave a charge without making satisfactory arrangements to meet every claim; if they cannot pay cash, to live on half rations rather than go in debt; that they learn to ask the people for a support for themselves as they ask for other contributions for the Church."

The concluding recommendations of this report give an insight into the methods used for raising the various askings:

"That the Presiding Elders take the collections for the Bishops; that preachers in charge take the Conference collection (for superannuates) in the month of April, and Missionary collection in the month of October; that the manner of raising the allowance for the presiding elder and the preacher in charge, and the Conference collections, be left to the Church Conferences; and that the preachers, in connection with the stewards, endeavor everywhere to inaugurate a system looking not alone to the present, but also to the development of the resources of benevolence in the future."

First Temperance Report

This Conference seems to have been the first to consider the cause of temperance, at least to the extent of setting up a separate committee for it. The report, signed by T. B. Holloman, secretary, and H. R. Singleton, in the 1873 Journal is the first of a long series of annual reports on this important subject:

"Temperance, being one of the Christian graces set forth by St. Paul, is worthy of our special consideration. Intemperance, being a social vice fed by social influences, has to be met, if met successfully, by like social influences. Hence the importance of an earnest cooperation of the Church with the social temperance organization. The use of ardent spirits as a beverage has become alarming among the young men of our country, and we think it is high time that the Church was fully alive to this great subject, Therefore

"1. *Resolved,* That the ministers and pastors of the charges be recommended to bring this matter before their congregations at an early period, and teach from the pulpit the great danger of such a course in life.

"2. *Resolved,* That while we know the *Discipline* of our Church fully and emphatically forbids the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, we recommend our preachers and people everywhere to discontinue its use and encourage all legitimate efforts that look to the discontinuance of the terrible evil in the land."

Report of Committee on Sunday Schools

Charles B. Galloway, as secretary of the committee of Sunday Schools, wrote the report on behalf of the committee:

> "This is emphatically an age of Sunday Schools. All religious denominations are bending their energies toward increasing its usefulness and extending its field of labor. Men are giving their whole lives to this work. Time and money and talents are being liberally expended, and they will succeed best in winning souls to Christ who most thoroughly develop and promote the religious instruction of children. It has been truthfully stated that more has been done in the conversion of the world within the last century than was accomplished in the first ten centuries of the Christian era. This, we say, has been greatly owing to the increased attention given to the gospel-training of the young. In this great and important work the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, is not behind the foremost."

After naming the Sunday School literature which was "not excelled" anywhere (The *Sunday School Magazine*, for teachers, The *Sunday School Visitor*, *Our Little People*, and the *Lesson Papers*), the catechetical materials, the Uniform Lessons, and the recent evangelical books issued by Dr. Atticus G. Haygood (the Sunday School Secretary of Nashville) and making comments on them, the report concluded with four resolutions, each interesting in itself:

> "1. *Resolved*, That to secure the more thorough acquaintance of the children with the doctrines and polity of the Church, we urge it upon pastors and superintendents to have the *Discipline* taught in the Sunday School.
>
> "2. *Resolved*, That we memorialize the next General Conference to define more clearly the mode of electing superintendents of Sunday Schools.
>
> "3. That as an aid to officers and teachers, we recommend the organization of weekly teachers' meetings in every Sunday School wherever practicable.
>
> "4. That the preachers in charge, together with the Quarterly Conference and superintendents see that none other than our own books and papers be used in our Sabbath Schools."

Religious Literature

The report of the Committee on Religious Literature, under the chairmanship of the venerable John G. Jones, gives us an insight into the problems that existed in the distribution of religious literature (in a day when railroads were few, the parcel post system not well organized nor the system of paying by mail, and catalogues of religious literature unavailable), and also of how the Church was endeavoring to solve the problems and meet the needs. We can quote only fragments of the long report:

"Our religious literature (books, tracts, and periodicals) has been the means of bringing multiplied thousands into communion with our Church and confirming them in our doctrines and Church polity. We cannot, then, look with indifference on this mighty agency of doing good. We must supply the members and patrons of our Church with sound religious literature, or they will be supplied from other sources which will corrupt them in doctrine and polity, and thereby alienate them and their children from us forever. We are evidently far behind our obligations and interests in the dissemination of our Church literature.

"Our present plan of depending mainly on the preachers in charge of circuits to see that the people are supplied with books and periodicals does not work efficiently—in many places it does not work at all. The old plan must be readjusted in some way, or it must be substituted by some new plan that will more fully accomplish our glorious object.

"Our statistics show that the present plan has not accomplished much in the Mississippi Conference for several years past. For the year 1871, $1,763.05 worth of books were sold in our Conference, and in the following year only $708.25 worth, while more than half of the pastoral charges report none sold. We are not inclined to blame the preachers. The fault is in the plan.

"Let each Church Conference take upon itself the task of furnishing its own community with our literature. This can be done by raising a small capital for the purpose, purchasing books at wholesale prices, and selling them at retail, so as to get the capital back for another investment. We do not see why, with prudent management, a capital of twenty-five dollars might not be made to supply a community perpetually with our books. Of course, this plan should be conducted on the cash system and should receive the earnest cooperation of the preachers in charge, for it would still be their duty to see that all their people are well supplied with our literature. . .

"As a Conference we should neither ignore nor neglect the claims of our great central Church organ, the *Nashville Christian Advocate*. It is worthy of our warmest patronage. If there is a better family and Church paper extant, it has not come under our observation.

"Your committee recommends the adoption of the following resolutions:

"1. *Resolved,* That we will use our best endeavors to sell one hundred dollars' worth of our own publications. . . .

"2. *Resolved,* That we use our best efforts, during the incoming year, to increase the circulation of our adopted paper, the *New Orleans Christian Advocate,* so that its income may compensate the publisher (R. J. Harp) and editor (Linus Parker), for their diligent and highly-appreciated services."

In the light of the resolution that each pastor sell one hundred dollars' worth of literature during the next year, it is interesting to observe that only on seven charges this year had as much as one hundred dollars' worth been sold: White Plains, Franklinton, Livingston, East Feliciana, Clinton, La., Brownsville, and Marion which was highest with two hundred dollars' worth. (Marion had reported four hundred dollars' worth in 1871 and Rankin three hundred.)

Memorials to the General Conference

The Conference by resolution instructed each pastor to take up a collection during March and April to defray the traveling expenses of the delegates to the General Conference and to forward the funds to the most convenient delegate.

The Conference went on record as being against a proposed extension of the term of the pastorate and instructed the delegates to use their influence to prevent any such extension.

By resolution the Conference requested the Council of Bishops to enlarge the Course of Study, "especially for young men who have not had the advantage of a classical education." This resolution was presented by E. C. Postell, layman, of Canton.

Admissions, Transfers, Ordinations, Etc.

Ten were *admitted on trial:* Daniel C. Langford, from the Mt. Olivet charge; Albert T. Tidwell, from Brownsville; Joseph W. Hall, from Sulphur Springs; Thomas B. Holloman, Clarence A. Powell, and Lewis R. Featherstun, from North Warren; Charles

R. Bowen, from Fayette; John W. Ritchey, from Bogue Chitto; Duncan A. Little, from Paulding; and Alex L. McBryde, from Toomsuba circuit.

Three were *received by transfer:* John W. Adkisson, from the Missouri Conference; Francis Walker and Josiah Bancroft, from the Alabama Conference.

Two were *readmitted:* Bascom T. Pearson and Thomas Price.

Four were admitted into *full connection:* Warren C. Black, James J. Smylie, John W. Sandell, in Elder's orders; and H. Walter Featherstun, admitted and elected to Elder's orders.

Four were *transferred:* James M. Mitchell, to the North Mississippi Conference; Edward Hicks, to the St. Louis Conference; W. J. Bullivant and Robert Burnip, to the Illinois Conference.

Discontinued: Benjamin W. Aston.

No traveling preachers were ordained Deacons at this Conference. The following local preachers were *ordained Deacon:* Albert T. Tidwell, Alex L. McBryde, John N. Henry, and Jesse Harper.

Ordained Elder: James M. Weems, John W. Hall, and H. Walter Featherstun, traveling preachers; William Wood and Irvin Miller, local preachers.

Six were *located:* J. O. Napier, E. J. Taylor, P. H. Napier, W. Harrington, J. B. Bowen, and J. W. Harmon.

The list of the *supernumerary* brethren was long: J. W. Adams, A. Y. Davis, J. K. Hamblen, G. T. Vickers, J. N. Williams, William Spillman, and H. P. Bowen.

Andrew Day was the only *new superannuate.* John B. Bowen, a superannuate of last year, was located, while all others were continued in the same relation.

Conditions

Probably the best over-all picture we can get of the conditions of things in 1874 is that which was given by the Committee on the State of the Church at the Annual Conference at the close of the year. We give almost the entire report:

"Any view of our ecclesiastical condition which should ignore or disregard the peculiar infelicities of our political status would be unjust alike to the ministry and laity of our church. We live under governmental oppression grievous to be borne, amid financial disasters and pecuniary dearth, and groan beneath a burden of taxation which paralyzes our energies and exhausts our resources. Yet our people have not abandoned the work of the Lord, but in spite of all hindrances, have done nobly in this cause.

"We are exceedingly gratified, in surveying the fields occupied by our laborers, to find so many indications of the blessings of God upon the work of our ministry, and of healthy growth in almost every department of the church in which, under God, we are privileged to live and labor. Notwithstanding the scarcity of money our ministers have in most instances been well and cheerfully supported; contributions for the widows, orphans and superannuated preachers have increased; our missionary collections are larger than they were last year; and our Sunday Schools, which have long been a beauty and a glory in the church, have not only well sustained their former promise, but have in many places organized juvenile missionary societies, which are rivaling or outstripping the churches in missionary contributions.

"The additions to our membership during the year amount to nearly three thousand, while the sum total of members in the Mississippi Conference exceeds twenty thousand souls. Nearly a thousand infants have been baptized by our ministers during the year, to be trained up in the way they should go. Our missionaries have, without exception, faithfully performed the work assigned them, some of them without even the hope of any other pecuniary reward than the pittance they might receive from the poor among whom they labored, and all of them for salaries too small to support any man's energies unless supplemented by the hope of a heavenly inheritance.

"Not a minister has been called by death from our ranks during the year, while the death rate among our membership has been less than the lowest estimate for lives carefully selected between those ages least subject to mortality.

"The spiritual state of the church seems to be almost everywhere improved or improving. Class meetings and prayer meetings are better attended, family prayers and home religion are reviving in many places, and the members of the church are bringing themselves into stricter obedience to all her laws.

"Our female members are taking unusually active interest in the welfare of the church, and are doing many things greatly promotive of its prosperity.

"That there are localities within our bounds where these cheering indications are not to be found, is doubtless true, and will no doubt continue to be true while the church remains in her militant state. But that there are many places in which they are to be seen should be cause of profound gratitude in all our hearts.

"The strength of our itinerant army is being replenished each year, in answer to our prayers, by the addition of a goodly number of young men of more than ordinary promise. Thus God gives us, in many ways, indications of his favor and blessing. Health and peace have been in all our borders.

"By these and many other tokens of good, in these trying and troublous times, we as ministers are enabled to heed the exhortation of the prophet, which says to us: 'Comfort ye, Comfort ye my people, saith your God.'

"Let it be our one work to preach scriptural holiness through these lands, and to exhort especially our young members not to rest satisfied short of a comforting assurance of pardoned sin and a well grounded hope of heaven."

Membership and Profession of Faith

The total membership reported by the churches of the Conference passed 20,000 for the first time, the actual figure being 20,639. The Meridian District was passing 4,000 in membership this year, the first district to do so, and was making more than a 10% gain in membership—from 3,807 in 1873 to 4,238 in 1874. The Woodville District was the only other making a 10% gain in membership this year.

Five districts did well this year in receiving persons on profession of faith: Meridian, 604; Brandon, 534; Brookhaven, 421; Woodville, 347; and Summit, 317. These figures would compare well even today, when we consider the fact that districts then had hardly half the number of charges and churches as districts today. What a remarkable year 1874 was in winning persons to Christ and the Church!

Four charges reported more than 100 persons each received on profession of faith: Fannin, with Walter W. Hurst, pastor, 137; Toomsuba and Marion, with John C. Brogan and Alexander L. McBryde as co-pastors, 129; Holmesville, with Henry P. Lewis as pastor, 121; and Enterprise Circuit, with Thomas Y. Armstrong as pastor, 115.

Eighteen charges each reported 50 or more on profession of faith: Brandywine, 90; White Plains, 86; Amite, 83; Spring Hill 75; Forest and Lake, 74; East Baton Rouge, 72; Garlandsville, 70; DeSoto, a new charge, 64; Scotland, 62; Wilkinson, 59; Morton, 59; Wayne Circuit, 53; Yazoo Circuit, 52; and Greensburg, 50. Eleven charges received more than 40 each: Mt. Olivet, Brownsville, Beauregard, Waynesboro (a new charge), Enon, DeKalb, Summit, Zion, Georgetown, East Feliciana, and Providence, in the order named.

Of the station churches, Jackson with a membership of 218 and Vicksburg with a membership of 206 passed the 200 membership mark for the first time to join Crystal Springs, which had 276, and Meridian which had 263.

Revivals

The secret of these large gains in membership lay largely in the successful revivals that were held during this year. The *New Orleans Christian Advocate* spoke editorially of the great revivals that were the order of the day and that were resulting in sinners being converted and members added to the Church.

On the Fannin charge, a great meeting was held at Fannin itself, with 65 professing faith in Christ and 45 being added to the church, 22 by baptism.

On the Holmesville charge, a stirring revival was held at old China Grove church in Pike county.

On the Clover Hill circuit above Vicksburg, T. B. Walden, the pastor, was assisted by A. B. Stewart of Rolling Fork in a meeting at Mayersville which witnessed many conversions and reclamations, and 16 persons joined the church, ranging in age from 12 to 74.

At McComb, a community not yet three years old, owned by the Mississippi Valley Company, a camp meeting was held for 20 days in October, resulting in 60 conversions and many additions to the church. The pastor, Erastus R. Strickland, wrote the *Advocate* during the year that the new McComb City Mission was successful.

In fact, good revivals were reported throughout the Conference: Clarke circuit in the Meridian District witnessed a meeting which received 26 members; W. H. Leith, the pastor at Brandon, united in a meeting with Walter W. Hurst and John D. Hays, neighboring pastors, and others, including the Brandon Presbyterian pastor, and 32 were received into the church; at Pipkin's Chapel, a station for the first time, near Baton Rouge, a meeting was held which received 16, according to Robert B. Downer, pastor, making a total of 76 members for the church.

Camp Meetings

The third annual Seashore Camp Meeting began on Friday, July 24, and continued through two Sundays until Monday, August 3. Great improvements had been made since the last meeting. The opening sermon on Friday night was preached by Dr. Linus Parker, editor of the *Advocate*. Three Bishops were present: Enoch N. Marvin, Holland N. McTyeire, and John C. Keener; and also a strong force of preachers, among them Dr. Jefferson Hamilton, of Mobile, Drs. A. S. Andrews and M. S. Andrews of Greensboro, Dr. H. F. Johnson of Brookhaven, James A. Ivy and Dr. Rush.

Reports indicated that there were 60 conversions and "the church was greatly revived and built up spiritually." John Keener was converted late one night after a sermon by Bishop Keener, his father.

A camp meeting was held on the Paulding circuit in Jasper county, at a place about twelve miles west of Enterprise near the Enterprise and Montrose road, which came to be called Holland's

Campground for Jacob H. Holland, pastor, who organized it. This year he was assisted by W. B. Hines, presiding elder, U. B. Phillips, G. M. Gilmore, A. Y. Armstrong, D. A. Little, and G. M. Liverman. On Sunday there were 2,000 people present, and the camp meeting resulted in 55 accessions and 12 children baptized. While reporting the meeting, the pastor stated that 90 had been received to date on his charge, and 30 children baptized during the year.

The third annual camp meeting at Hennington Campground, on the beautiful lakeside near Crystal Springs, began August 19. There were 30 preachers present, with 15 of them preaching at least once during the meeting. There were 120 persons who professed faith in Christ. It was the best meeting yet held there; 3,500 persons were present during the camp meeting, while 2,700 of them heard preaching, on one occasion, presumably on Sunday.

A camp meeting was announced to begin on Friday before the second Sunday in October at the New Hope and Pleasant Ridge Campground on the DeKalb circuit, Meridian District, Thomas Cotton was the supply pastor.

Missions: Foreign and Home

While we have been looking at the great gains in the Conference in 1874, let us review also some of the mission work of the Conference and of the whole Southern Methodist Church at this time, as reported by the Conference Board of Missions:

> "The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has had a foreign mission established at Shanghai, China, for more than twenty years. Only two laborers are now in that field, Young J. Allen of the Georgia Conference and J. W. Lambuth of the Mississippi Conference. Brother Allen is acting as Government Translator, and is also editor of a magazine of the highest style of Christian literature, which has a wide and increasing circulation, and through which he is exercising an extensive and powerful influence for good among the millions of China and Japan. The Emperor of Japan and his Cabinet are subscribers for Brother Allen's magazine.

"Brother Lambuth has for many years been laboring in that field, assisted by his faithful and self-sacrificing wife. He preaches and teaches, and distributes tracts and other religious literature. He is now assisted by three native missionaries, Brother Doan (C. K. Marshall), stationed at Soochow, Brother Kinsan, recently at Shanghai, and Brother Taee, stationed at Changchow.

"We have also a foreign mission recently established in Mexico, managed by Brothers S. Hernandez and Joel T. Daves, assisted by an increasing band of native helpers. Mexico has become weary of the yoke of Popish superstition and tyranny, and yearns to throw it off, that she may enjoy the light, liberty and glory of protestant Christianity.

"Our Church also has a very interesting missionary work going on among the Indians of America. The Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks and Cherokees are being brought under the influence of Christianity by the ministers of our Church. We have twelve white, sixteen native, and four colored preachers among them. The recent determination of the United States Government to extend the courts, laws and other agencies of civilized government over the Indian tribes, will, we hope, accomplish more in a short time toward their advancement in Christian civilization, than every other agency has accomplished in the last twenty years.

"We have also interesting missions among the Germans in Louisiana and elsewhere. Two newspapers are published in the German language for the benefit of those who do not speak English.

"Large sums of money have also been paid by the Board at Nashville in aid of destitute portions of the Western Conference and the Los Angeles Conference.

"Appropriations amounting to $1,200 were made a year ago to nine missions within the bounds of this Conference. Several other missions have been served to which no appropriations were made."

New Charges

By appointment of the 1873 Annual Conference, there were 93 pastoral charges this year in the same 8 districts. The presiding elders were the same as last year with the exception of Francis M. Featherstun who succeeded John A. B. Jones on the Vicksburg District. F. M. Featherstun had organized the Vicksburg Mission in 1872 and had served it in 1873 under its new name of Grove Street church.

Centerville was a new charge this year in the Brandon District and was to report 285 members, 2 Sunday Schools, and a church building valued at $500. Centerville was located a few miles north of Lake and west of Decatur and had just witnessed a large ingathering. After a few years its name was changed to Conehatta.

Three new names, destined to continue through the years, were in the charge names of the Meridian District this year for the first time. Waynesboro was separated from the Wayne Mission and probably became a station church this very year. It reported 160 members, one Sunday School with 7 teachers and 71 pupils, a church valued at $1200.00, and a pastor's salary of $500.00. Quitman appears as a charge name, listed Quitman and Stonewall. Probably Quitman had been a part of the large Clarke circuit; and the new charge reported 71 members, one Sunday School, 7 teachers, 55 pupils, and no church building. The Stonewall congregation used a building which was the property of the company which operated the Stonewall Factories. DeSoto circuit, which long has been an important circuit in the Conference, was listed as a charge this year for the first time and reported 313 members, 2 Sunday Schools, and 5 church buildings.

McComb also was listed as a charge this year for the first time. It was in the Summit District and was called McComb City Mission. It reported 112 members, 3 Sunday Schools, and 3 church buildings valued at $800.00. Quite probably Magnolia was one of the three churches.

Parsonages

Eight parsonages were either built or bought this year, a remarkable number for hard times in a period when parsonages were few. At the end of the year the number reported in the entire Conference was 28. The charge names and the valuation of the eight new parsonages were: Camden, $500.00; Port Gibson, $2,200.00; Clover Hill, $700.00; Providence, $200.00; Garlandsville, $600.00; Trenton, $300.00; Walnut Grove, $500.00; and

East Pascagoula (now Moss Point), $1,200.00. The total valuation of all the parsonages in the Conference was reported as $44,400.00 this year against $35,050.00 last year, a rather remarkable increase.

A brief write-up in the *New Orleans Advocate* stated that the Clover Hill parsonage was built at Mayersville on a lot given by Col. Zeno Preston.

Weddings of Interest

John W. Lambuth, a brother of James W. Lambuth, missionary to China, was married to Mrs. Susan Elizabeth Ford on December 18, 1873, by W. E. Ballard.

Thomas B. Holloman of the Conference and Miss Mollie L. Holliday were married at Canton by C. B. Galloway on February 5, 1874. This good woman was the mother of all his children; she died at Yazoo City; after her death Dr. Holloman married Miss Matilda Jones, daughter of John G. Jones.

Interestingly enough, the father of T. B. Holloman, Thomas R. Holloman, had married the second time only two weeks previously. This marriage was to Mrs. Amanda Curtis, daughter of John McKee, on January 21, and was performed by Ira B. Robertson. This Mrs. Holloman lived to be 89 years old, and died at Ellisville on January 3, 1924.

Missionaries

In a letter from China, J. W. Lambuth told of one of his trips into the interior of China, 50 miles from Shanghai. On this trip he halted at Woosit and preached to thousands of pleasure seekers on the mountains where, unknown to him, there was to be an idolatrous procession. On this trip he and his helpers sold books and labored for the Lord.

The first voyage of J. W. Lambuth to China, in 1854, required four months. His recent voyage required only 35 days. His circuits in China had a circumference of 300 miles and he was much in need of help—of three men and their wives, funds for their support, and funds with which to build churches.

The Christian world sustained a great loss this year. The great missionary, David Livingstone, was buried in Westminster Abbey on April 18. Bishop Walter R. Lambuth, son of J. W. Lambuth, our missionary in China, years later was to open up Methodist mission work in Africa.

General Conference

General Conference met in May of this year at Louisville, Ky., and was attended by the elected delegates from the Mississippi Conference. One of the most important changes that affected the local church was concerning the support of the ministry: each member was to pay according to his ability; he was to be assessed what he was able and willing to pay, and was to be released of the obligation only by order of the stewards or by vote of the Church Conference. The stewards were to determine whether a church would assess weekly, monthly, or quarterly.

District Conferences

The Vicksburg District Conference met at Natchez on June 25, with F. M. Featherstun presiding. In writing of attending the Conference, Josiah Bancroft said that he saw "Natchez under the Hill, formerly a resort for thieves, gamblers and outlaws, but now quiet and order reign. Class meeting and preaching weekly in this notorious locality."

The Woodville District Conference met at Clinton, Louisiana, on June 26. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were Rev. J. E. Jagers, W. H. Griffin, G. H. Wiley, and J. D. Nettles. The alternates were L. K. Barbour and Thomas White.

The Brookhaven District Conference met at Brookhaven, July 16-19, with Bishop Wightman present and presiding. R. W. Millsaps was secretary. The attendance was large and the proceedings interesting. The preaching was done by George F. Thompson, William Wadsworth, P. A. Johnston, C. G. Andrews, W. E. M. Linfield, and the Bishop, who delivered great sermons on Saturday and Sunday. This was his first visit to that community. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were Rev. J. W. Welborne, Archie Steele, brother of Rev. Elijah Steele, J. F. Enochs, and T. J. Hunter. The alternates were Rev. L. B. McLaurin and R. W. Millsaps.

The Jackson District Conference was held July 23-26 in Jackson; Bishop Wightman presided and J. T. Cameron was Secretary. Every charge was represented by the pastor and at least one representative. The financial situation was reported unfavorable.

H. H. Montgomery, R. D. Norsworthy, C. B. Galloway, and J. M. Weems were appointed a committee to look into the matter of establishing a district school, and if possible to make arrangements for the school, and report to the next District Conference. This resulted in the establishment of a high school at Canton in the fall; the faculty consisting of H. S. Kennedy, A.M., Superintendent; T. P. Walker, English Department; Mrs. Anna Webster, associated with the principal in charge of the female department; and Miss Ella Montgomery, Music Department.

The Jackson District Conference elected as delegates to the Annual Conference: E. C. Postell, W. L. Nugent, John T. Cameron, and J. S. Hutton; and as alternates, O. R. Singleton, who was for some years a Congressman, and J. J. Birdsong.

The Brandon District Conference was announced to be held at Scotland Chapel in Neshoba county on August 27.

The Summit District Conference was postponed from the second Sunday in July until October; the presiding elder, A. B. Nicholson, announced: "Circumstances require the postponement."

Methodism on the Gulf Coast

Joseph Nicholson in an *Advocate* article during the year said that substantial churches were at Moss Point and Ocean Springs. G. Y. McNabb was the first Protestant minister on the coast, probably meaning that he was the first appointed to work regularly on the coast, for certainly others had been there before him. Joseph Nicholson was at Biloxi in 1842, before his admission into the Conference that fall.

He dates the conversion of Wesley Griffin Evans at that time when he entered upon his ministerial labors which lasted for 67 years. W. G. Evans was converted at the first Santee camp meeting, in Covington county, in 1838, and was licensed to preach in 1839.

Rodin Seal, Esq., gave McNabb a lot, and the people built a log church on it. The first quarterly meeting on the seashore was held by J. N. Hamill, Presiding Elder, in 1843, Joseph Nicholson being present.

The four main preaching places in early coast Methodism were Biloxi, Handsboro, Pass Christian, and Bay St. Louis. The coast country was in the Paulding District on the Pearlington charge in 1842. The appointment read G. Y. McNabb, S. J. Davies.

Schools and Colleges

All the districts before the year was over were contiguous to a high school or college, except Seashore and Summit, and they were trying to launch high schools.

The East Mississippi Female College at Meridian had its first graduating class in the spring of this year. There were four graduates. From 1874 through 1896, when its name was changed to Meridian College, it had a total of 168 graduates.

Bishop Enoch M. Marvin preached the sermon for Centenary College, and Dr. W. V. Tudor delivered the address, June 29-30. Bishop Keener was also present.

W. H. Watkins preached the commencement sermon at Whitworth Female College.

Scotland High School, located at Dowdsville in Neshoba county, had been established in 1872 as the property of the Brandon District. Under the leadership of Professor and Mrs. W. D. Dominick, commencement exercises were held this year on June 26 with Rev. J. B. K. Smith the orator of the occasion.

Sharon College closed its doors this year, not to reopen, which, of course, was regretted, but colleges, like churches, fulfill their mission in certain localities and have to be abandoned or moved. The Annual Conference in December recommended that the property of Sharon College be transferred to the Jackson District Conference to be used according to its discretion. A marble slab has been placed in recent years at the Sharon Methodist church with the following inscription:

Sharon Methodist Church,
Organized 1835.
Sixty-two acres deeded June 7, 1836.
Second Parsonage and First District
Parsonage in Southwest Built here.
Site of Sharon Female Academy, and
Madison College (1837-74).

The report of the Committee on Education at the Annual Conference gave an excellent statement on the theory of Christian education:

> "That all proper education is adjustment of mind and heart to truth—that our institutions of learning ought to be strong agencies in the great work of evangelizing the world—that the faculties of the mind must not only be expanded, but led to drink from the fountains of heavenly truth, and become adjustable by divine grace to the purest and most exalted theories of the Gospel.
>
> "The time has come when, in the propagation and defense of divine truth, cultivated intellect must meet intellect—cultivated knowledge must meet knowledge, and the children of the church must be educated by us sufficient for these emergencies. Our theories are right; our system is good. It remains for us only to labor, live and prosper in the prosecution of our aims."

Vanderbilt University

Vanderbilt University at Nashville founded by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, opened its doors this year and was fast to develop into a great and influential institution. The first professors were listed in the *Advocate* as follows: Thomas O. Summers, D.D., LL.D., Systematic Theology; A. M. Shipp, D.D., Hermeneutics; L. C. Garland, LL.D., Physics and Astronomy; J. C. Willis, D.D., Mathematics; and N. T. Lupton, A.M., Chemistry.

Whitfield Harrington

Whitfield Harrington, an influential member of the Conference from 1854 until his location at the last Conference (December 1873) died on May 12. Born in Amite county, he joined the church at the age of 19, and was educated at old Emory College in Oxford, Georgia. After completing his education, he married Isabella Morrison. He was licensed to preach in October, 1854, and was admitted into the Mississippi Conference. He served at Starkville, then Attala circuit, Greenville, Jackson, and Vicksburg stations.

At Vicksburg in 1863 he fell into hands of the Federal Army, and his trying experiences during the war while serving as Army Missionary and agent for the Soldiers Tract Association seriously impaired his health. After the war, in spite of his physical condition, he served Camden four years, Canton station one year, and as agent for Whitworth College in 1873. Mrs. J. H. Rimmer of Canton is a daughter of Whitfield Harrington.

Some Other Deaths

Peter B. Pope died at Yazoo City on January 6, aged 68. Born in South Carolina, he was converted in 1842 at a camp meeting near Benton, probably at Tranquil.

Elizabeth Regan, wife of Rev. Stephen Regan, a local preacher whom she married in 1818 and who had died in 1856, went to her reward on January 30, at the age of 72. She was a native of North Carolina.

The *widow of George H. Clinton* died on February 2. After her first husband's death, she had married Thomas J. Fuqua on November 15, 1872.

Rev. Leroy Massengale, a member of the Mississippi Conference who served in the Alabama territory from 1825 until he was set off in the Alabama Conference in 1832, died on February 9 at Macon, Miss. After serving in the Alabama Conference until 1846, he located, but in recent years had been readmitted by the North Mississippi Conference.

Mrs. Jane R. McLeod, daughter of William Loflin, the founder of Santee church in 1838, died on March 28 at the age of 41. She had married H. A. McLeod in 1851. She united with the church under Henry T. Jones in 1842.

Mrs. O. W. F. Gordon, daughter of John and Rachael Wilmarth, for whom Wilmarth Hall was named, died in Waterproof, Louisiana, on March 30, at the age of 56. A native of Massachusetts, she had come to Natchez in 1842 with her sister, Mrs. A. F. W. Speer, wife of Samuel W. Speer who was a member of the Mississippi Conference intermittently from 1835 until his transfer to Louisiana in 1863. Wilmarth Hall was a girls' school conducted by the Speers and named for the Wilmarth family.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hudson, a member of Bear Creek church in Hinds county since 1833, died on April 3. A native of South Carolina, she was a Miss Jones, and was first married to John Allen in 1817, who died in 1832. Her second marriage was to Henry H. Hudson in 1835.

Mrs. Calvin A. Frazee died at Opelousas, La., on April 8. Her husband had been a member of the Conference from 1842 to 1849 when he transferred to the Louisiana Conference. She was the former Louisa T. Lewis, daughter of Hon. T. H. Lewis, prominent layman of Washington, Mississippi.

Mrs. Mary E. Weems, the 21-year-old wife of James M. Weems, a young minister of the Conference, died on April 15 at the home of Samuel R. Weems in Scott county near Carr's church. A native of Choctaw county, Alabama, she was the daughter of F. M.

Dawkins, who had settled at Montrose, Mississippi. She joined the church when 12 years old, married on December 9, 1872, and was the mother of Mrs. John A. Moore, long of the Mississippi Conference, and the grandmother of John Weems Moore, now of this Conference.

Nathanael Jefferies, an excellent layman of Port Gibson, died during the year, 72 years of age. From near Clarksville, Tenn., he had come to Jefferson county in 1818, married Catherine Flynn Watson in 1825, and was converted at the Cane Ridge camp- meeting in 1829. Both he and his wife joined the Methodist Church that year. Moving to Port Gibson later, he contributed $100.00 a year to the church, and before his death he invested $1,060.00 at ten percent interest for the church.

Mrs. Maria Louisa Magruder, wife of Dr. A. L. C. Magruder and last surviving child of George and Charlotte Newman, of Washington, Miss., died in Macon, Georgia, on May 30, aged 59. She had joined the church in Washington in 1836.

Hon. W. L. Sharkey, long prominent in Mississippi political and economic life, and for whom Sharkey county is named, died in July. Charles B. Galloway delivered the funeral discourse.

The Fourth Quarterly Conference of the Beauregard Charge passed a resolution concerning the loss of two laymen: *Thomas C. Carter,* an exhorter and a member of the church for more than 50 years, had died on August 17; *Samuel C. Smith,* a steward at Wesson, and likewise a faithful and efficient laborer, had died on August 28.

During the year *Levi Beeman,* a local elder, died at his home near Good Hope, Leake county, at the age of 68. A native of North Carolina, he had married Louisa Luter in 1830, been licnsed to preach in 1837 and ordained deacon in 1842. He was ordained elder in 1853, after moving to Leake county in 1848. He was the brother-in-law of Rev. Dempsey Sparkman.

Thomas Carter Glass, prominent Pleasant Valley layman, died August 18, aged 77. Born in Mecklinburg county, Virginia, December 25, 1797, when he was five his family moved to Chatham county, North Carolina, where he was reared. He was converted and joined the church in 1820, and was a class leader and exhorter for 54 years. He moved to Copiah county, Mississippi, very early in the development of the church, when preachers and church privileges were scarce. He died at the residence of Harmon Bufkin, August 18, 1874.

W. B. Smith, aged 77, died at his residence in Yazoo county on October 9. He married Nancy Johnston, May 21, 1820; there were 12 children born to them. He joined the church in 1812, and was nearly all the time a class leader; he was a strong defender of the Methodist Church.

Mrs. Ann Wilkinson died at the residence of Dr. J. H. Gibbs, Meridian, on Nevember 11. She was the step-mother of Mrs. Gibbs and had lived for years in Mobile.

Mrs. Polly Ann Prewett, wife of Harrison Prewett, daughter of A. J. Vaughn, aged 28, died at Magnolia. She joined the church when 15; was married in 1861; and was the mother of six children.

Barney Lewis, oldest brother of Rev. H. P. Lewis, son of Quinea and Martha Lewis, was born in Robson county, North Carolina, September 28, 1818; in 1820 he came with his parents to Pearl River in Marion county, Mississippi; he married Kezia Lamkin, January 15, 1846. He moved to Scott county, December 1856, and to Brookhaven in 1868, thence to Crystal Springs in 1871, where he died December 30, 1874. He was converted and joined the church under Rev. James A. Light in September, 1857.

CHAPTER VI

1875

Conference at Hazlehurst

The Annual Conference met at Hazlehurst, December 16-22, 1874. This was the first meeting of the Mississippi Conference at Hazlehurst, which had grown rapidly after the coming of the railroad just before the War Between the States. The church in Hazlehurst was built in 1860 on Georgetown street, across the railroad from its present location; but moved to its present commanding situation in 1869. It was a large frame building, valued at $4,000.00 and was quite adequate in its day. Hazlehurst had become a station in 1871, and in 1874 had 150 members. Corydon Chamberlain was pastor and W. E. M. Linfield was presiding elder.

From the resolution of thanks adopted by the Conference we have the names of three Mississippi River steamers(the W. S. Pike, the Robert E. Lee, and the Natchez) used by the pastors en route to Conference, and also three railroads (the Vicksburg and Meridian; the New Orleans, St. Louis, and Chicago—now the Illinois Central; and the Mobile and Ohio, which ran from Mobile to Meridian and northward). In this transition period pastors came to Conference by four methods: horseback, in buggies, on trains, and by steamer, in some instances using all of these methods on a single trip.

The business sessions met in the courthouse and the Sunday preaching services were held in the Methodist, Baptist, and Presbyterian churches, with Bishop Paine preaching at the Methodist church. There were only 59 clerical members present, the smallest number in many years, and 21 lay members: William Hoover, George Nicholson, C. S. Stewart, T. J. Feazell, J. W. Welborn, J. F. Enochs, W. J. Lum, J. G. Guice, S. L. Guice, Irvin Miller, T. W. Winstead, T. C. Gibbs, James Williams, E. C. Postell, J. T. Cameron, W. L. Nugent, J. E. Jagers, T. White, W. Griffin, S. B. Watts, and A. Taylor.

Bishop Robert Paine was the presiding Bishop, this being his ninth and last time to hold the Mississippi Conference. Dr. Linus Parker wrote of him in the *Advocate:* "Bishop Paine appears in excellent health, and goes through the labors of the chair and cabinet with no sign of weariness. He presides admirably, and, as he stands before us addressing the class to be received into full connection, he impresses us as one of the finest embodiments of Christian dignity and manhood that we have ever looked upon." Then, writing of the Sunday service, he says: "Bishop Paine delivered a most delightful and instructive sermon, full of unction and power, at the Methodist church, to a house literally full to overflowing."

The same secretaries and assistants were re-elected: C. G. Andrews, J. A. B. Jones, John T. Cameron, and J. J. Smylie.

By adopting the report of the Joint Board of Finance, the Conference took the balance of $437.15 that was in the Bishop's Fund and turned it over to the Bishop to be applied on the deficiencies existing in the salaries of the presiding elders.

After mentioning the "impoverished condition" of the people, the report included a word that needs to be included here:

> "We think we can see a marked improvement in the disposition of our people to support their preachers, and suggest that this disposition be encouraged by frequent pastoral visitations, as the term was understood by our fathers. If to this essential be added consecration to the cause of Christ and a deep personal piety, the result could not but be extremely satisfactory. We are sure of the opinion that a pious, faithful pastor can generally rely upon those to whom he dispenses the Word of Life for a support, and recommend that our lay brethren be put to this one test. To expect a support, our ministers must deserve it, they must come up to the standard prescribed by the *Discipline.*"

The pastors, through the adoption of the report of the Committee on Temperance, were requested to bring the subject of Temperance before their congregations by reading and commenting on the temperance clause in the *Discipline* and by interpreting to the people the law as set forth by the College of Bishops. The cooperation of all members was asked for, especially the women.

The Conference recommended that Sunday Schools start Sunday School Missionary Societies, which banded together would be known as the Missionary Union of the Conference. The officers of this Union were to be allowed to designate, subject to the approval of the Conference, the objects to which their missionary contributions would be applied.

The sad news reached the Conference that on the preceding Friday night, James Clinton, described as "a Christian gentleman," the son of Thomas Clinton, an aged superannuate, was murdered; and the Conference adopted an appropriate resolution of sympathy.

When the name of John G. Jones, one of the oldest members of the Conference, was called for the passage of his character, on request of the Conference he rose up and gave a most interesting and touching account of his ministerial life, now 50 years. The Conference was much moved. "Bishop Paine followed with remarks that will long be remembered by the members."

There were 14 admitted on trial at this session. Only four of the 14 served in the Conference as long as 10 years: Ruffin T. Davis, 10; Curtis D. Cecil, 30; Thomas W. Adams, 44; and W. W. Hopper, 47.

An unusual number located at this Conference, 10. Longest in service was John J. Clark, who had served 21 years; Franklin W. Sharbrough, who lived in Jasper county near Sylvarena and was the father of Malachi B. Sharbrough, had served 19 years; William G. Millsaps had served 17 years and later re-entered the Conference; Phillip S. Petty had served 13 years. George W. Chatfield had served only five years, but before this five-year period of service he had been principal of Garlandsville Academy and had rendered a great influence in that section of the State before the war.

The new superannuates were William Spillman, M.D., who had served in the Mobile conference from 1859 until 1870, when he was pastor at Enterprise and came to the Mississippi Conference in the addition of that part of Mississippi; James Shanks, who had served in the Mobile and Alabama Conferences from 1834 until 1870 and came into the Mississippi Conference as pastor of the Wayne circuit; and Joseph Nicholson, who had been in the Mississippi Conference for many years and would again be on the active list.

Two were transferred out of the Conference: E. W. Simmons to the Northwest Texas Conference after seven years' service in this Conference, and Corydon Chamberlain, pastor of the Hazlehurst church, after nine years in the pastorate at Brookhaven, Jackson, Fayette, and Hazlehurst, with four years' service on districts.

Admitted on Trial

Name	*From*
Adams, Thomas W.	Sharon Circuit
Burkhalter, Eliza	Marion and Toomsuba Circuit
Carradine, Beverly	Yazoo City Station
Cecil, Curtis D.	Natchez Station
Cotton, Thomas	DeKalb Circuit
Davidson, George W. (E)	Chickasahay and Green Mission
Davis, Ruffin T.	Bayou Sara Circuit
Flowers, Richard F.	Crystal Springs Circuit
Guice, John A.	Fayette Circuit
Hicks, Joseph Q.	Sharon Circuit
Hopper, William W.	Waynesboro, Circuit
Nelson, Vernon H.	Yazoo City Station
Phillips, Charles J.	Carthage Circuit
Reed, Charles W.	Fayette Circuit

Full Connection

Bradley, Ralph
Ellison, John W.
McLaurin, James W.
Smith, Joseph B. K.
Watkins, Calvin C.
West, Thomas S.

Transferred In

Coleman, Andrew J., from the Alabama Conference
Nugent, Clarence J., from the North Mississippi Conference

Ordained Deacons

Ellison, John W.
Holloman, Thomas B.
McLaurin, James W.
Ball, William J. (Local)
Burton, Robert W. (Local)
Hendrixson, Henry A. (Local)
White, Archibald (Local)
Nailor, William (Local) (Colored)

Ordained Elders

Ellis, Daniel G. W.
Norsworthy, Robert D.
Singleton, Hiram R.
Walden, Thomas B.
Hoover, William (Local)
Vinson, John L. (Local)

Located

Adams, John W.
Chatfield, George W.
Clark, John J.
Davis, Oliver H. P.
Hamblen, James K.
Hyde, Seaborn R.
Millsaps, William Green
Petty, Philip S.
Sharbrough, Franklin W.
Walker, Francis

Supernumerary

Davis, A. Y.
Flowers, E. A.
Williams, J. N.
Vickers, G. T.

Superannuated

Nicholson, Joseph
Shanks, Jesse
Spillman, William

History of Methodism in Mississippi

The Conference appointed a committee consisting of W. H. Watkins, C. G. Andrews, and H. F. Johnson to confer with John G. Jones and get the History published as soon as practicable, at our own Publishing House, if possible; and also passed an amendment that each preacher and layman be requested to raise from ten to twenty-five dollars, or as much as they could, and that right soon, to secure the publication. Two volumes were about ready for the printers.

Reports from the Field

The First Quarterly Conference was held at Raleigh, J. H. Evans pastor, February 6-7, by W. B. Hines, P. E., who gave perfect satisfaction in the chair and in the pulpit, Saturday and Sunday. The people were generally poor, and finances slow, but the hearts of the people were fully in the cause of Christ.

In the *Advocate* of March 13, Charles B. Galloway urged the people to buy copies of the Minutes of the Annual Conference for twenty-five cents. All profits were to go to East Mississippi Female College.

J. M. Weems, pastor, stated that the amount of the Hazlehurst church debt was $800, but $446.20 had been paid; and he thanked the Wesleyan Society and Charles B. Galloway, of Jackson Station, for $25.00; the brethren and R. J. Jones, of Canton, for $20.00; the brethren and Josiah Bancroft, of Vicksburg, for $12.50. A missionary rally was held at Hazlehurst, October 17-18; H. F. Johnson addressed the meeting; the offering for Domestic Missions was $81.80, and for Foreign Missions $81.50, the Sunday School $20.20, making a grand total of $191.60.

Bishop Paine was taken very ill in New Orleans, April 11, and was hurried on home to Aberdeen. On the way he stopped at Mobile for medical attention. On June 27 following he wrote of his improvement, saying he had not been out of his house and yard as yet, but he hoped to be able to hold the Mississippi and North Mississippi Conferences.

The trustees of the Seashore Camp Meeting were called to meet on the campground May 3-4, 1875, for the election of officers, for laying off lots for further buildings, to fix the time for the camp meeting, and to make preparations for it. The trustees for 1875 were: Geo. W. Goodwyn, R. S. Rickey, Benj.

O. L. Rayne, J. H. Keller, William H. Foster, and Philip Harahan, of New Orleans; William Otis and John Ellsworth of Mobile; and H. C. Vaughn, Moss Point.

Mrs. J. W. Lambuth and two children reached Nashville from Shanghai, safe and sound, May 28, and for a brief time were the guests of Dr. D. C. Kelley. From Nashville they went on to Emory and Henry College to witness the graduation of their eldest son, Walter Lambuth, the future missionary and bishop. On September 12 in the Clay Street Church, Richmond, Mrs. Lambuth gave an account of their missionary work in China. She was introduced by Bishop Doggett who made an appeal for funds to help, and a large sum was realized.

Mrs. Lambuth left San Francisco on her return voyage on November 1, and arrived in Shanghai on December 1. The trip required one month, the boat escaping a fearful storm just before landing. With her on the voyage were her son Robert William and Dr. Parker. Speaking of J. W. Lambuth, who did not make this trip, and another, the *Advocate* said: "Two men from Mississippi built a church in China."

District Conferences

The Meridian District Conference met at Enterprise, April 2, 1875. John A. Ellis, presiding elder, occupied the chair the first day. Bishop Paine presided on the second day. East Mississippi Female College was reported in a healthy condition. T. S. West, J. T. Heard, and Bishop Paine were the preachers who occupied the pulpit during the Conference. The Conference resolved to take collections during the month of May for the young preachers at Centenary College. Delegates to the Annual Conference were elected: V. M. East, S. B. Watts, T. P. Bell, and Dr. C. R. Rencher.

The Jackson District Conference, which met in July, reported that the 12 pastoral charges and one mission had received 71 new members thus far this year; and also the following statistics:

Sunday School missionary societies, 6; parsonages, 8; weekly class meetings, 6; and weekly prayer meetings, 19. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were W. L. Nugent, of Jackson; W. G. Kearney, of Vernon; J. T. Cameron, of Canton; and N. H. Luse of Yazoo City.

William McCormick

William McCormick was born in South Carolina, October 27, 1796, and died in Jasper county, Mississippi, at his residence on June 24, 1875, aged 78. In April, 1820, he embraced religion and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, but afterwards he united with the Methodist Protestant Church. He was a zealous Christian and led an exemplary life. After hesitating nearly 20 years because of his growing family and his timid disposition, he was licensed to preach in 1829. He served in the itinerancy in that Church till, because of failing health, he was placed on the roll of the superannuates. In the union of his Church with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, he came cheerfully to the Mississippi Conference, and remained a superannuate till his death, which was peaceful and triumphant.

Commencement Exercises of Our Schools

The Commencement Exercises of the East Mississippi Female College, Meridian, had the Hon. T. H. Wood to deliver the address, and it was well received at this flourishing school.

Notice was given of the Commencement Exercises of Centenary College, the sermon to be preached by J. B. Walker of New Orleans, and the address to be delivered by C. W. Carter of the Louisiana Conference.

E. H. Mounger, pastor at Port Gibson, called attention in the *Advocate* to Port Gibson Academy, saying it occupied a prominent place among the institutions of learning, honored and useful. Many throughout the region were trained there. J. A. B. Jones was president, and was assisted by Misses Eugenia and Matilda Jones, daughters of John G. Jones.

Camp Meetings

The Seashore Camp Meeting began on July 21 with J. B. Walker, presiding elder of the New Orleans district, in charge of the religious services. A report made on July 26 indicated 35 conversions to date, much interest manifested, and about 60 preachers present, and excellent preaching. There were 34 tents on the grounds. Bishop Keener administered the sacrament of the Lord's Supper after the 3 o'clock sermon on Sunday. Congregations were large throughout the meeting, and a total of 143 conversions. On the last night there were from 1,500 to 2,000 persons present, 46 of whom were Methodist preachers. Among them were Bishop Keener, J. T. Heard, C. B. Galloway, W. B. Lewis, I. B. Robertson, R. D. Norsworthy, Joseph Nicholson, and H. F. Johnson.

The Philadelphia circuit camp meeting was announced to be at Pilgrim's Rest, Neshoba county, September 3, 1875.

The Garlandsville circuit camp meeting was announced to be held near Hickory and Newton, September 10-14.

A camp meeting was announced to be at Goshen on the Carthage circuit three miles above Carthage.

The camp meeting at Crystal Springs began on Thursday night, August 12, and continued through August 20. There were 29 sermons by 18 ministers, "all good."

Other camp meetings were announced: Providence campground, 14 miles east of Hazlehurst, October 7; Summit District camp meeting at Magnolia, October 7; China Grove, Friday night before the first Sunday in October, closing the following Wednesday morning; Spring Creek, Friday night before second Sunday in October.

H. H. Montgomery gave an account of the camp meeting at Providence church near Rockport, Providence circuit; there were 14 families tenting there, on the spacious beautiful grounds consisting of 80 acres belonging to the church. There had been no camp meeting there since 1848. Elijah Steele had preached there in his boyhood, this being his home church. On Sunday 600 were present. During the meeting there were 25 converted, and 25 united with the church.

J. H. Holland, in closing his fourth year on the Paulding circuit, wrote that they had a good time spiritually in the past four years. The first year a campground was established, and four camp meetings had been held, all proving to be successful. Good revivals had been held. The third year witnessed about 100 accessions and the fourth year about 30; and about 40 children had been baptized the fourth year.

Revivals

Beverly Carradine, pastor of the Warren Mission, reported a meeting of eight days during which there were 19 accessions, 18 by faith and one by certificate; nine of those received by faith were young ladies. He was assisted by T. B. Holloman.

A good meeting was reported from Rose Hill, July 31; during the five days of the revival there was a wonderful display of the presence and love of God from the beginning to the end.

J. W. McLaurin, pastor on the Waynesboro circuit, had a great meeting, and a number of additions, both young and old. His helpers were J. T. Heard, U. B. Phillips, and D. A. Little.

A meeting was reported at Taylorsville Mission, Seashore District, at which there were many penitents at the altar, and 12 members were added. The pastor, C. R. Benson, was assisted by J. O. Napier.

R. A. Sibley wrote of good meetings on the Walnut Grove circuit. A church was organized with 22 members, 10 or 12 professions. At Scotland Chapel there were 12 accessions and more than 20 professions; at Miller's Chapel there were three accessions.

W. B. Lewis, pastor, indicated that progress was being made on the Fayette circuit. A decided spiritual improvement was noted and 47 members added to the church.

W. E. Ballard reported from Beauregard 19 accessions, and from Wesson 57 accessions.

Ira B. Robertson, pastor, reported from Summit the reception of 30 members, about 20 conversions, some new family altars.

C. McDonald, pastor of Forest and Lake circuit, reported a revival at Homewood. This was probably the beginning of the Homewood church, as he says a church was organized with 20 members, and 10 by form of *Discipline.*

New Churches Organized

The church at Long Beach was organized in 1875 by Joseph Nicholson. The first preaching there was in a discarded boxcar in 1874. Mr. Henry Ware built the first church and gave it to the congregation in 1879. It was dedicated under the pastorate of J. W. McLaurin in 1880.

Oak Grove church, 12 miles south of Meridian, was organized in 1875 and reorganized in 1907. The first building was in 1875, and there have been three since; the present church was erected in 1916.

Chapel Hill, Porterville charge, was organized about 1875, taking the place of the disbanded Narkeeta Chapel. J. T. Abney was pastor when the present building was erected in 1891.

Bethel Church, Adams charge, was organized about 1875, taking the place of Hopewell, disbanded about 1874. Although the Sunday School was not organized until 1882, the church building was erected in 1875.

Thomas Clinton

Thomas Clinton was of Jewish parentage, and was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in January 1793, and died in St. Helena parish, Louisiana, October 28, 1875, closing a life of more than 82 years. His 56 years in the ministry were spent as follows: 18 on circuits, five on missions, four on districts, and 29 as a superannuate; however, he was active during the years as a superannuate. His parents, reared Roman Catholics, were converted in the Methodist Church. When he was but a few months old, his parents died of yellow fever, and were buried in the same grave. Cared for by a friend, he lived in Baltimore and New York, and in 1800 moved to Charleston, South Carolina, where he spent his youth. He joined the South Carolina Conference in January 1820, and volunteered as a missionary to the Mississippi Conference. He married Miss Annie L. Hanna in January, 1828, and to them were born ten children.

Passing of the Elect

The year 1875 witnessed the death of eight elect ladies on the Fayette charge: Mrs Louisa Stampley, Mrs. Philadelphia Shackelford, Mrs. Anna E. Dent, Mrs. Mollie J. Scott, Mrs. Catherine Humphreys, Mrs. Anna Bullen, Mrs. Mary E. Williams, and Miss Matilda Jordan.

Joel Reymonds, a layman of near Bolton, a man of vigorous intellect and strong will, a Christian and a Methodist for more than 50 years, died early in the year at the age of 74. A native of Massachusetts, he lived at Greensboro, Alabama, for 20 years before moving to Bolton in 1849.

Alfred M. Locke, a steward on the Camden circuit, died on February 5, 1875. He joined the Methodist Church in 1853 in a revival at Old Prospect.

George Dougherty McCormick died at his residence in Jasper county on February 18, aged 63. Born in South Carolina, he was the son of the Rev. John McCormick who came from South Carolina to Mississippi in 1822 and settled in what is now known as Jones county; thence to Jasper county in 1833. He married Miss Sallie Millsaps, daughter of Uriah Millsaps, December 5, 1833. Four sons and four daughters survived after the death of their mother. He married the second time to Mrs. Celia Mounger, widow of Judge Henry Mounger and the mother of E. H. Mounger of the Mississippi Conference.

James O. Stevens, brother-in-law of J. W. Lambuth, died at his home near Madison on February 27, aged 44. Born in Virginia, he came to Jackson in 1850 and lived there till the close of the War, when he moved to Madison county. He prospered in business and soon became a man of large means. Converted in 1853, he joined the Baptist Church. In 1855 he married Miss Mary Elizabeth Lambuth, eldest daughter of Rev. J. R. Lambuth, of the Mississippi Conference, and joined the Methodist Church and continued a Methodist the remainder of his life.

Rev. John Watson Purvis, a faithful local preacher in Yazoo county, died February 9, nearly 72 years of age. Born in North Carolina he came to Adams county in 1822, and married Miss Sallie Holmes in 1825. Returning from a visit to his native state, he visited a camp meeting in Sumner county, Tennessee, where he was converted and joined the church on probation. As a probationer he brought his certificate to Mississippi, and was received into the church. He was licensed to preach a few months later. He moved to Yazoo county in 1832, and his home became a regular preaching place on the circuit. A church was organized in his home, 17 persons joining on the first invitation. This was the beginning of Tranquil church and campground.

Mrs. Julia L. Dallas, wife of Peter L. Dallas of Neshoba county, died on March 14. In 1854 she had been happily converted and joined the church.

Thomas Toomy, a layman, died at his home in Wayne county on March 18, aged 70. A native of Sevierville, Tennessee, he was well versed in Methodism.

Mrs. W. D. Dominick, a native of Kentucky, died in Brandon on March 25 at the residence of her mother, Mrs. James M. Moore. A successful teacher, she joined the church about 1867, married on December 31, 1873, and died a devout Christian.

Mrs. Mary Durr, only daughter of William and Mary Millsaps, died at the home of her brother, T. E. Millsaps, on April 4, aged 26. Born in Copiah county, she was educated at the State Female College, Memphis, and was converted and joined the church at Pleasant Valley in a meeting held by Robert W. Lambuth.

Rev. John H. Davis, father of Mrs. John C. Brogan, of the Mississippi Conference, died at Marion on May 9, aged 68. Born in Tennessee, he spent the most of his life in Fayette county, Alabama.

Aaron A. Boulton of Jasper county died on May 11, at the age of 70; and his wife died on May 25, just two weeks later, aged 62. Born in Orangeburg district, South Carolina, in 1805, he came to Perry county when a child, then to Jasper in 1838, and was converted at Hopewell camp meeting in October, 1841. He went from the Methodist Protestant Church into the union in 1871.

Hon. John Watts, of Jasper county, died at his residence at Newton on May 20, aged about 70. He was a legislator, district attorney, and district judge for over 20 years. He devoted more than 30 years of his life to the service of God, having embraced religion and joined the church in 1841. He was licensed to preach in 1842, and afterwards ordained deacon by Bishop Andrew, and later an elder by Bishop Pierce at Jackson. He was great help in Sunday School work and in revivals. He was buried at Garlandsville.

Mrs. Sarah J. Thornton, wife of Dr. J. J. Thornton of Centerville, Newton county, died on August 1, at the age of 35.

Dr. William A. Bradfield, a young physician in his first year of practice at East Pascagoula, died of yellow fever on August 12, aged 26. His sister, Ina Corine, died two days previously, aged 24; and his brother, Robert B., died one day later, aged 20. These three were children of Dr. John and Mrs. Emily Bradfield, eminent Methodists of Uniontown, Alabama.

William C. Rush, for 25 years a member of the Pleasant Ridge church, died at his residence near DeKalb on August 18, aged nearly 72. A native of North Carolina, his wife was the daughter of a North Carolina minister, Mason Crawford.

Mrs. John M. Echols died in Jackson on August 29. She had joined the Methodist Church in June, 1866, under the ministry of W. L. C. Hunnicutt.

Hon. J. B. Lewis died at his residence in Rankin county on September 4. He was born and reared in Virginia, and came to Mississippi about 1833; he married the daughter of John R. Enochs about 1843.

Geo. F. Thompson, pastor at Raymond and Clinton, lost a son in a riot at Clinton on September 6.

Mrs. Martha Lewis, wife of Quinea Lewis, was born of Baptist parentage in Robeson county, North Carolina, October 10, 1801, and died at Holmesville. The name of her parents was Spier. She married when 15 years old, emigrated to Mississippi about 1820, settling in Marion county. In May, 1822, "she saw the Lord by faith and trusted in him with all her might; suddenly, powerfully and unmistakably the long-sought blessing came." She always felt and bore testimony to the assured evidence of her acceptance in Christ. She and her husband joined the church in a love-feast at Union Academy on June 15, 1822. She was the mother of H. P. Lewis and W. B. Lewis, and was the grandmother of five preacher brothers, sons of H. P. Lewis: Barney, Henry, John T., James M., and Osmond; and also of the three sons of W. B. Lewis: B. F., W. H., and W. B. The last named is a medical missionary in Africa today.

Jordon D. Denson, a local elder who had been licensed to preach in St. Helena parish in 1857, became paralyzed in 1875 and died happy in the Lord.

Robert Releford Abney, grandfather of the late James Thomas Abney of the Mississippi Conference, and great-grandfather of James W. Abney, Montrose layman today, died at the home of a son in Marion county, September 25, 1875. He was born in Maury county, Tennessee, August 28, 1810, and moved to Marion county in 1819. He married Mary Ann Robertson in July 1830; and joined the Methodist Church in 1831. He moved to Jasper county in 1836 and lived there until a few months before his death. He left a wife, two daughters, and seven sons.

Rev. Jesse Ginn, formerly a member of the Mississippi Conference, for more than 60 years a member of the church, and 44 years a minister, died in Louisiana on September 29, aged 87.

Rev. Elijah Seal, of Franklin county died on October 1, aged 51. He joined the church at Salem, Amite county.

George Selser died in Louisiana on November 29, at the age of 80. His father, also named George, was a trustee of the first Methodist church in Jefferson county, about 1808. He himself was a member of the board of managers of the Book and Tract Depository at Vicksburg before the war. The most of his life was spent in Warren county. Miss Susie Selser of Jackson was a relative.

John Felder, bearing a name that has been familiar and honored in southwestern Mississippi for generations, died on December 20 at the age of 82. He was born May 8, 1793, in South Carolina, and came overland with his brothers through the Indian nations in 1810. His father, Peter Felder, came by way of Natchez; and on his seventeenth birthday, May 8, 1810, young John went to Natchez to meet his father. They settled on Tangipahoa creek about a mile and a half from the present location of Magnolia. John was converted at the first camp meeting held in 1811 near where Magnolia now stands. He moved to Topisaw in 1839, and supported the camp meeting there for 15 years. He was married three times, first to Miss Elizabeth Sandell, to whom were born seven children; the second wife was Mrs. Simmons, and to them was born one child; and the third time he married Mrs. Stanfill. Six of his brothers and nephews were preachers. The funeral sermon was preached at Topisaw by Harvey F. Johnson.

Spicer Dickson, a much beloved and true citizen of Jasper county, in whose home Methodist preachers always found a hearty welcome, died on December 29, 1875, at the age of 80. A native of Georgia, he joined the church in 1824 while living in Louisiana. He moved to Mississippi in 1825.

CHAPTER VII

1876

Conference at Canton

For the fourth time the Mississippi Conference met at Canton, December 15-21, 1875.

Bishop Paine was the appointed president, but on his arrival at the seat of the Conference, a telegram called him home on account of the accidental wounding of his son-in-law. By request of the Bishop, W. E. M. Linfield called the Conference to order. The devotional exercises were led by John G. Jones, who read Titus, third chapter; a hymn was sung; and he led in prayer. On the third ballot W. H. Watkins was elected chairman, and presided until Friday morning, when Bishop E. M. Marvin arrived and assumed the presidency of the Conference. This was Bishop Marvin's first and only official visit to our Conference.

There were 81 clerical and 19 lay delegates who responded to the roll call, or were present during the session; this was a considerable increase over last year.

Lay delegates present were: W. L. Nugent, W. G. Kearney, J. T. Cameron, C. K. Marshall, J. E. Jagers, E. P. Willis, R. Babington, E. C. Postell, T. L. Mellen, J. G. Guice, J. Nicholson, R. C. T. S. Hilliard, W. Barnes, B. H. Catching, Josiah Hester, W. D. King, W. M. Thornton, Irvin Miller, V. M. West, and T. J. Feazell.

C. G. Andrews was elected secretary; J. A. B. Jones, assistant, J. T. Cameron, recording secretary; and J. J. Smylie, statistical secretary.

The Conference hours were fixed from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. The Committee on Public Worship consisted of W. E. M. Linfield,

P. E.; R. J. Jones, pastor; and E. C. Postell, local layman. The other committees and their chairmen were: Education, C. B. Galloway; Sunday Schools, W. C. Black; State of the Church, F. M. Williams; Bible Cause, R. Bradley; Religious Literature, J. H. Shelton; Memoirs, J. G. Jones; Joint Board of Finance, R. D. Norsworthy.

A. H. Redford, Book Agent; R. A. Young, Secretary of Vanderbilt University; Linus Parker, Editor, *New Orleans Christian Advocate;* and D. D. Moore, President of Grenada Female College, were present representing their various interests.

Admissions and Demissions

Admitted on Trial—Malachi B. Sharbrough, from the Cayuga Circuit, began his long and useful career in this Conference and on the Pacific Coast. Others were D. Webster McLean from Jackson, Louisiana; Harvey B. Denham from East Baton Rouge circuit; Green W. Brown from Georgetown circuit, and William D. Dominick from Brandon, who had been teaching at Dowdsville.

Received by Transfer—Ambrose M. Barrington and E. E. Hamilton from the North Mississippi Conference; and R. S. Woodward, from the Alabama Conference. George W. Davidson, who was received on trial at the last session, an elder in the Baptist Church, was recognized in the same orders.

Readmitted—John Lusk.

Discontinued—J. A. Guice, R. F. Flowers, E. Burkhalter, Joseph W. Hall, and C. A. Powell. The name of A. Y. Davis was erased from the roll at his own request.

Located—H. Moore, G. M. Gilmore, and John W. Hall.

Ordained Deacons—C. R. Benson, Lewis R. Featherstun, D. C. Langford, D. A. Little, and John Ritchey; also Benjamin L. Spruill, local preacher.

Ordained Elders—D. A. Givens, U. B. Phillips, and J. J. Smylie.

Superannuated—The only new superannuate was the veteran E. R. Strickland who was to live until 1892.

Transferred Out—J. Bancroft, to the Alabama; A. T. Tidwell, to the St. Louis; H. P. Bowen, to the West Texas; C. J. Nugent, to the White River; and Thomas Cotton, to the West Virginia Conference.

Retrospect

The close of the year 1875 after the Annual Conference met in Canton was a time of retrospect as well as a looking forward to a better day. For a little more than 60 years Methodism in Mississippi had been a strong factor in the religious life of the commonwealth. Its organized beginning as a separate Conference took place coincidently with the War of 1812. Its progress and achievement had been made in spite of two later struggles, the Mexican War and the War Between the States. Now ten years after the latter conflict its effects were seen on every hand and its influence touched the life of the people in many ways. Poverty, oppression, and misrule were slowly giving way to a better order of things, but the desolation of the last decade yielded reluctantly to the forces of restoration.

One happy effect of the unfortunate state of affairs was a strong interest in religious life and experience. Several of the pre-war campgrounds had been restored and several entirely new camp meetings had begun their honored careers. The spirit of hopelessness in economic and governmental affairs found a strong ray of hope in Christian experience and practice.

The leadership of the Conference was in a transition stage. Of those with 40 years of Conference membership only one, William H. Watkins, held a pastorate of outstanding importance, he having been placed in charge of the Vicksburg church at this session of the Conference. The veteran John G. Jones was now retired and engaged in that interesting and profitable business of writing a history of his beloved Methodism in the bounds of the Conference in which he had served more than 50 years.

Change After Conference

Charles Reed, who was appointed to serve with Ralph Bradley on the Sharon charge in the Jackson District, was moved to Fayette to serve in the same capacity with W. B. Lewis. His home was on the Fayette charge.

"Will the Waters Be Chilly?"

There was carried on in the *Advocate* at this time a mild controversy over a popular hymn of the day. C. K. Marshall of Vicksburg and a writer from Trenton who signed himself "Singer" took opposite sides over the question whether the above named song be sung at the bedside of a dying Christian. The song is said to have been the refrain of "Show Pity, Lord." The writer remembers that decades ago it was frequently sung, and that his uncle, Rev. Henry T. Jones, who believed with all his heart in the literalness of heaven and hell, used to sing it. The controversy and the song are well-nigh forgotten in our modern day.

Appointments

Five of the eight districts had new presiding elders this year: Wm. B. Hines, Jackson District, James L. Forsyth, Woodville; James A. Godfrey, Summit; Will H. Leith, Brandon; and Thomas Price, Seashore.

The four presiding elders who came off districts were serving appointments as follows: W. E. M. Linfield, Canton; Charles F. Gillespie, Cayuga; A. B. Nicholson, Georgetown; and Charles G. Andrews, President, Centenary College, and pastor at Jackson, La., and Pipkin's Chapel.

James Long

The Conference lost one preacher by death in 1876, James Long, an honored superannuate. He was born on April 24, 1792, in Maryland, and died in Jones county, Mississippi, on January 27 at the age of 83. He joined the Methodist Church when about sixteen or seventeen, and emigrated to the West. He joined the Methodist Protestant Church about the time of its organization, and came, after a life of useful service, to the Mississippi Conference as a superannuate at the time of the union, and remained a superannuate till his death.

New Churches and Parsonages Reported

T. B. Holloman, pastor on the Clover Hill circuit, now Mayersville, preached his first sermon there in the courthouse on January 9. The new church was almost ready for use, the size 45x35 feet; and there was a parsonage there.

The East Baton Rouge circuit, T. W. Adams, pastor, had five churches, and a parsonage was constructed in the early part of the year.

A new parsonage was constructed at Franklinton, Louisiana, also in the early part of the year.

The new church at Paulding very probably was built during the year, as the lumber was being sawed for it in April. The former building had been burned.

Commencement Exercises

East Mississippi Female College began its 1876 commencement on June 5, with a sermon by Charles B. Galloway, Jackson pastor. An address was delivered on Monday by T. S. West, Shubuta pastor, on American Archaeology; and the baccalaureate address was delivered by Benjamin Jones, Walnut Grove pastor. The graduates this year were:

Lula Raines, Hickory, valedictorian
Ida Aikin, Meridian
Belle Lee, Meridian
Lillian Henderson, Meridian
Annie Baldwin, Meridian
Annie Hall, Meridian
Annie Brooke, Meridian
Sallie Reynolds, Meridian
Nellie Chisholm, Meridian
Ellie Gould, Meridian
Mamie Vail, Meridian
Emma Dunn, Pushmataha, Ala.

Whitworth Female College graduating exercises began on June 18 with a sermon by W. E. M. Linfield. Charles B. Galloway delivered the address on graduation day, June 21. The salutatorian was Melissa Linton, of Brookhaven; the valedictory was delivered by Mary Chandler, daughter of Judge Chandler of Hancock county; an offering amounting to $400 was taken for the library.

At Centenary College the alumni address was made by Hon. J. H. Muse, local elder, who had been a pupil of the College of Louisiana 50 years before. The famed preacher, W. E. Munsey, delivered the commencement address. R. H. Rivers, who had been president of the College, 1848-1854, was present. In 1850 he had given a diploma to C. G. Andrews, the youngest member of the class then, but now president of the college.

Rev. C. W. Barrier through the *Advocate* called attention to the offer of Cooper Institute, Daleville, Mississippi, a popular and worthy school, to young Methodist ministers who wanted to work their way through college. Free tuition was offered them, and board at $13 per month to be paid by him until they could repay it with money made after they were out of school. Ministers were recipients of the benefits of this well-equipped institution. It had had 125-168 students during the ten preceding years.

Whitworth Female College at Brookhaven was in a prosperous condition this year, with H. F. Johnson as president. East Mississippi Female College, J. W. Adkisson, president, likewise was flourishing, with the debt of $2,500 paid, and with a gift of $500 from Miss Mary Watts of Newton to serve as the nucleus of an endowment. Port Gibson Female College was completely equipped and working successfully under the presidency of J. A. B. Jones. Centenary was doing excellent work.

District Conferences

The Brandon District Conference was held in June. Bishop Paine presided most of the time; and Dr. J. T. Watts was secretary. W. H. Leith, the presiding elder, had traveled 2500 miles to date during the year. There were several conversions at the conference; local preachers were recognized and they made their reports—a new thing in District Conferences. The delegates elected to the Annual Conference were A. G. Mayers, Rev. Irvin Miller, W. M. Thornton, and Jared Watts.

The Meridian District Conference met at Waynesboro on June 23 with Bishop Paine presiding and President Adkisson as secretary. The delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: W. M. Brame, A. Taylor, L. P. Brown, and E. J. Taylor. This was L. P. Brown's first election; he was a delegate frequently through seven decades, and lived as a tower of strength to Meridian and Mississippi Methodism until 1947.

The Brookhaven District Conference was held at Crystal Springs, beginning July 13, with H. H. Montgomery, P. E., in the chair. Delegates were elected to the Annual Conference: David McRee, J. H. Thompson, Rev. J. W. McNeil, and Willis Barnes.

The Summit District Conference was held on July 27, 28 during the district camp meeting. James A. Godfrey, presiding elder, was in the chair and C. S. Stewart served as secretary. The delegates to the Annual Conference were chosen as follows: Rev. J. E. Jagers, Dr. George Nicholson, Wiley Brown, and C. S. Stewart.

The Jackson District Conference was held at Edwards, July 27-29. The presiding elder, W. B. Hines, was in the chair and J. T. Cameron was secretary. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: W. L. Nugent, Rev. L. D. Langford, J. E. Coker, and J. T. Cameron.

The Seashore District Conference convened at Santee church, Mt. Carmel circuit, September 8, 9. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference: I. M. Applewhite, J. P. Carter, R. J. Parker, and T. J. Feazell. Thomas Price was the presiding elder; David A. Givens was the pastor.

The Vicksburg District Conference was announced to meet at Port Gibson on October 12.

Camp Meetings

The trustees of the Seashore Campground were Dr. E. F. Griffin, Moss Point; William Otis and Hugh L. Hopper, Mobile; J. H.

Keller, Geo. W. W. Goodwyn, B. O. L. Rayne, R. S. Rickey, Phillip Hallaran, and W. H. Foster, New Orleans. The trustees of the Seashore Campground bought the property on the west, and set out 200 magnolia, oak and china trees on the grounds. A centennial bazaar was held for the campground, probably in Biloxi, and the sum of $600 was raised.

The Seashore camp meeting was announced to begin Wednesday, August 2, 1876. James Tharp was keeper of the grounds. Dr. Griffin of Moss Point, one of the trustees, offered to deliver lumber on the ground at a reasonable price to any who wanted to build. It is said that during the meeting there were 70 preachers present, embracing several denominations, and that there were 150 conversions. From all accounts a remarkable thing happened on the morning and afternoon of the opening day—a multitude of fishes appeared.

The Crystal Springs camp meeting was held August 2-10. There were only five tents in 1872, there were 52 in 1876. Bishop Keener was present for the second successive year. There were 40 ministers present and 29 additions to the church at this meeting, besides the six who united with the church at Crystal Springs the following Sunday.

Providence camp meeting had 100 conversions and 40 accessions this year.

The Holland camp meeting, on the Paulding circuit, D. P. Bradford, pastor, was reported by the pastor to have been a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord; there were 45 conversions and 36 accessions.

The St. Matthews camp meeting, four miles south of Hickory, was announced to begin September 8.

Pleasant Ridge and New Hope camp meeting, four miles east of DeKalb, was announced to begin October 6.

Salem camp meeting was of only three days' duration this year, with sermons by three preachers. Sickness prevented the usual attendance, but there were 24 conversions and 20 accessions to the church.

Thomas Price, presiding elder, reported 84 accessions to date this year on the Pearlington circuit. A revival was held at Pearlington with 24 accessions, 10 at the fourth quarterly conference.

Revivals

A nine-day meeting was held at the Pearl River church. This was the church from which J. W. Lambuth went as a missionary to China. Preaching was by W. B. Hines, presiding elder, Beverly Carradine, pastor, and E. M. and F. A. Alford, local preachers. There were 38 accessions.

A revival at Zion church, Jackson county, now Escatawapa, near Moss Point, resulted in 25 conversions and 30 additions to the church; A. M. Campbell was the pastor.

In a revival at Shubuta, T. S. West, pastor, the preaching was done by J. K. B. Smith. Dr. West left at the close of the meeting for the Centennial at Philadelphia, his expenses being paid by the Shubuta congregation. Charles B. Galloway from this Conference also went to the Philadelphia celebration of the centennial of the Declaration of Independence.

The Brookhaven District witnessed about 350 conversions in camp meetings and revivals during the year. Some of them were: *Brookhaven:* 25 converted, 14 accessions; *Crystal Springs* camp meeting: 100 or more converted, 14 accessions, reclamation of many, healing of wounds, reconciliations of differences; *Providence* camp meeting, east of Hazlehurst: one of unusual power and interest, 100 conversions. At Providence campground, where meetings had been held for more than 40 years without a shed, a commodious shed was constructed in 1876 and 18 framed tents were filled with people while some still slept under temporary coverings. Good meetings were held at Brandywine and Scotland.

Thomas Price, Seashore presiding elder, writing from Pearlington on August 21, told of a sermon preached at Augusta by Philip H. Napier, of Enon, with little response. However some children were to be baptized after the benediction, and so the congregation was called to order, some remarks were made on infant baptism and the children were baptized. Following this, the doors of the church were opened, and six persons from prominent families joined.

At Clinton, Louisiana, where J. W. McLaurin was pastor, C. G. Andrews and N. B. Young assisted in a revival which resulted in 26 accessions to the church.

Chapel church, Mt. Carmel circuit, experienced a successful meeting held by William P. Long, which resulted in 25 additions.

At Hazlehurst, J. M. Weems, pastor, was assisted in a meeting by J. T. Heard and C. B. Galloway who rendered valuable service in the pulpit and at the altar.

A. M. Campbell, of East Pascagoula circuit, reported that that circuit of three churches had steadily progressed during the year. Three revivals were held with 96 accessions and 75 conversions; and the salaries were fully paid and all else was in sight.

On the Summit charge, where Ira B. Robertson was pastor, there were 25 accessions. Gen. A. M. West, president of the Mississippi Valley Company, offered a lot in McComb on which to build a Methodist church. Meanwhile, the Presbyterians granted the use of their church to the Methodists. This resulted in the first building for Centenary Church in McComb which was already organized.

At Yazoo City R. D. Norsworthy held a meeting with the assistance of C. K. Marshall who did the preaching and charmed the people with his eloquent gospel preaching. Much good was accomplished.

At China Grove a good meeting was held, with 14 accessions. The pastor, J. W. Sandell, was assisted by P. Howard, W. J. Ball, H. P. Lewis, and Ruffin Davis.

Wesley Chapel, one of the handsomest country churches in the Mississippi Conference, located on the Jackson and Canton wagon road about a mile east of Tougaloo, was dedicated in the early fall. It was reported as a thing of beauty, costing about one thousand dollars. This church is now at Ridgeland.

Supreme Court Decision

A far-reaching decision of the Mississippi Supreme Court was given this year, and it has affected the transfer of church property ever since. When the Methodists of Hazlehurst, in 1869, planned to move their church building from its original location on Georgetown street to the west side of the railroad, a gentleman generously gave the congregation a lot on the west side of Extension street, some distance south of the court square. This in turn was exchanged for the present church lot and the donor entered suit for the recovery of the land given to the church on the ground that the congregation failed to use it for the intended purpose. The chancellor of the district, Hon. E. G. Peyton, upheld his claim and the matter went to the Supreme Court. Hon. W. L. Nugent, of Jackson, represented the church in the contest and used as his chief argument the fact that the decision of the lower court would invalidate all transfers of church property. A reversal of the chancellor's decision was secured.

Before this legal contest the Hazlehurst church had already been placed on the present lot. It stood there until it was replaced in the early '90s by a new building. In 1928 the present commodious and attractive structure was erected during the pastorate of C. W. Crisler.

Facts of Interest

Silver Creek charge, in the Jackson District, now called the Silver City charge, had only 14 members at the beginning of the year, but by the middle of May had received 11 new members by vows and six by certificate. Green W. Brown was pastor.

Among the graduates in medicine in the spring of 1876, in Louisiana State University, was Alexander Fairley, grandfather of Mrs. Hardy J. Wilson of Hazlehurst and also of James W. Magruder and Frank M. Sexton of Hazlehurst.

H. Walter Featherstun, who transferred in the middle of the year to California, wrote a complete description of his transfer to Los

Angeles, his new field. He went by boat from Vicksburg to St. Louis, and by train and boat to his destination. His appointment was Santa Anna.

John G. Jones wrote from Port Gibson in September that the History of Methodism was in manuscript form, four volumes from 1799 to 1869. It is to be regretted that the third and fourth volumes never did get printed, and were lost.

Deficiencies in Salaries

A committee composed of T. L. Mellen, R. D. Norsworthy, and W. B. Lewis reported in the *Advocate* on the matter of deficiency in salaries. In 1876 the average salary for presiding elders was $741.26, which ranged from $1,239.75 for the Jackson District to $341.00 for the Seashore District. The average salaries of pastors in 1876: Vicksburg District, $746.00; Jackson District, $639.35; Brookhaven District, $490.72; Meridian District, $453.27; Woodville District, $351.71; Brandon District, $317.16; Seashore District, $279.25; Summit District, $218.16; making the average salary for the Conference as a whole, $461.95.

The committee suggested the cause of deficits: 1. Unconverted or irreligious church members; 2. inefficient stewards; 3. inefficient preachers or pastors.

Passing of the Elect

Rev. John Wilkinson was not a member of the Mississippi Conference but was indirectly connected with it. After the death of his first wife, he married Miss Mollie Keener, daughter of Bishop Keener, and with her he lived nearly four years. Before the Civil War he was a foreman of the *New Orleans Christian Advocate*. But he felt the call to preach, and he was licensed and became an eloquent preacher and a great shepherd, and was very much loved wherever he served. He served Opelousas for three years, Shreveport for four years; and then Baton Rouge, his last appointment. He left a daughter, Mary Wilkinson, an excellent young lady who lived with her grandfather, Bishop Keener, during his remaining years, where we knew her in Ocean Springs, his summer home.

A Sunday School address written by John Wilkinson, especially for young people, a strong and eloquent paper which occupied five columns of the *Advocate,* was read to the Sunday School Anniversary of the New Orleans District Sunday Schools, three or four days after his death. A. F. Watkins, a student, was chairman of a committee to prepare resolutions from the Baton Rouge Collegiate Institute, in April 1876, on the death of John Wilkinson.

Mrs. Annie C. Flanders, grandmother of W. C. Flanders, former church treasurer at Columbia, died on January 26, 1876. She was born in Ireland in 1822, and joined the Moreau Street church in New Orleans upon its organization in 1840.

Mrs. Racheal Eastman Byrd, widow of Rev. John Ira Ellis Byrd, died in Carroll county on January 30, aged 77. A native of Claiborne county, she first married Reuben Marshall in 1816, by whom she had 13 children, 9 of whom survived her. She joined the church in 1824, and was converted at a camp meeting near Vicksburg in 1827. She married J. I. E. Byrd in 1846.

Miss Mattie McCauley, sister of Mrs. W. R. Stuart of Ocean Springs, died there on February 19. These sisters were descended from the Kennons, pioneer Methodist preachers in Mississippi. Mrs. Stuart lived for some decades, and was a choice spirit in the church and community when the writer was pastor at Ocean Springs in 1905.

Mrs. Vauda Collins Magee, wife of Hon. William Magee, died on Sunday, March 5, aged 31. A native of Clinton, Louisiana, she was baptized by H. J. Harris in 1846, and joined the church at Topisaw campground in 1856.

Peter B. Cook, a druggist of Yazoo City, died on March 14, at the age of 47, leaving four daughters and four sons. A native of South Carolina, he joined the church at old Benton campground under Philo M. Goodwyn, in 1845; he married Miss M. S. Davis on October 30, 1851. For many years he was a steward in the Yazoo City church, and was the donor of the first parsonage property, on Jefferson Street.

Thomas F. Horton, M.D., for many years superintendent of the Yazoo City Sunday School, passed to his reward on March 22, aged 37. Born near Auburn, Alabama, he joined the church while a student at Emory and Henry College. He married Mrs. Sue Grubb of Yazoo City on October 19, 1869.

Lucy W. Adams, wife of Rev. J. W. Adams, the mother of the late Thomas W. Adams of the Mississippi Conference, died at Sharon on April 9, aged 56. A native of Wilkes county, Georgia, she moved to Lowndes county in 1831, and to Madison county in 1852.

Mrs. Rachael A. Pipkin, the second wife of Barnabas Pipkin and the mother of Thomas C. Bradford, both of our Conference, died at the residence of her preacher son at Beauregard, at the age of 58.

Peresse Bonney, a resident of Holmesville since 1828, died there on March 20. Born in Brunswick, he professed religion in early life and united with the church. He married Nancy Floyd on May 16, 1819, at Saco, Maine.

Mrs. Ann Eliza Dicks, daughter of Daniel Bass, died at Natchez on June 11, at the age of 57. Born in Fayetteville, North Carolina, in 1818, she moved to Woodville in 1822, and joined the church under John C. Burruss. She married H. Y. Collins in 1838, and after his death in 1841, she married George J. Dicks in 1845. Bishop Robert Paine was entertained in their home during the Conference of 1846.

Mrs. Sarah Duke died on July 10 in Leake county, aged 75. Born in Hancock county, Georgia, she was converted and joined the church at Concord campground in Putman county, Georgia, in 1819. She was the mother of eight children, and her house was the home of the way-worn itinerant.

Mrs. Margaret A. Dollins, daughter of T. Y. Armstrong of the

Mississippi Conference, died August 7, 1876, aged 27, in Noxubee county.

Simon T. Massey, a resident of Yazoo City for 35 years, and a consistent church member, steward and trustee, died on August 14, at the age of 59. He was a native of North Carolina.

James A. Combs, a faithful steward, died at his residence near Woodville on August 12. He joined the church in 1851, loved it, and was zealous for it. He was a faithful steward.

Mrs. Paralie Brame Gough of Jasper county died on August 21, aged 44. Born in Marengo county, Alabama, she joined the church when 16 at Uniontown, Alabama. When her father died, she moved to Jasper county to live with her brother, W. M. Brame. She married F. C. Gough, November 24, 1870.

R. S. Woodward, a prominent member of the Conference, wrote a lengthy, beautiful memoir of *his mother,* who died August 11, 1876, at the age of 76. Born in Kershaw district, South Carolina, she married Robert S. Woodward in 1817, and was converted and joined the church in 1820. The father died in Marengo county, Alabama, when only 39. The son, named for his father, was born a short time after the father's death, making the eighth child, and the most of them were quite young. But the mother managed to train them well, supported them, and they all became Christians before they reached their majority. A wonderful mother and great Christian!

B. F. Pickett died October 11, 1876. Born in Rutherford county, North Carolina, in 1810, he came to Mississippi in 1835, united with the church in 1852 at a camp meeting near Sulphur Springs, and had been a church member 24 years and a good Christian man.

Mrs. Martha Kennon, widow of Dr. R. L. Kennon, and daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Rush, died November 2, 1876, nearly 81 years old. Born in Columbia county, Georgia, she moved to Jackson, Mississippi, after the death of her husband and lived there, 1846-1864. Then she divided her time between two daughters in Oxford and Brandon. At the time of her death she had been spending some time in Newton with her daughter, Mrs. Jayne, and assisting her son in teaching.

Mrs. Catherine Mullin, wife of Tarpley Mullin, died in Copiah county on October 3. Born in Tuscaloosa county, Alabama, March 15, 1820, she united with the church when nine years old and was a consistent member until her death. She married in 1838, and was the mother of 12 children, six of whom preceded her in death.

Dr. A. L. Banks, a beloved doctor who was generous and helpful, died at his home in Scott county on October 13, 1876. A native of Georgia, he joined the Methodist Church as a youth in Daleville, Alabama. He moved to Scott county in 1859, and in 1871 he married Miss Emma E. Eley, a sister of the late Governor Paul B. Johnson's mother.

Mrs. Miranda Bethea, wife of Thomas Bethea of near DeSoto in Clarke county, died in the faith on November 4, at the age of 60. She was the mother of 12 children, 9 of whom survived her.

Mrs. Lydia Marble Bullen, the daughter of Abner and Rachel Marble who united with others in forming the Methodist society at the celebrated Spring Hill church, in Jefferson county, died on November 24 at the age of 76. When 16 she married Capt. Samuel Bullen, the son of a Presbyterian minister. They settled in the neighborhood of Spring Hill and remained till death removed them. Capt. Bullen lived to be 87. She was one of the pioneers of early Methodism in Mississippi, and lived a most exemplary Christian life, a Methodist for more than 60 years.

Mrs. Josephine A. Anderson, daughter of Robert and Sarah M. Nelson, died at Homewood on Christmas day, 1876, at the age of 30. Born in Smith county, she was converted and joined the church in 1863. She married Thomas E. Anderson, January 15, 1867, and lived a life of righteousness.

CHAPTER VIII

1877

Annual Conference at Natchez

The Mississippi Annual Conference met at Natchez, November 29-December 4, 1876. Bishop William May Wightman opened the session by reading Romans, chapter 10; the Conference sang a hymn; and the Bishop led the Conference in prayer.

More than 70 clerical members were present, and 15 laymen. T. L. Mellen at Natchez was for the second time a delegate among the laymen, and L. P. Brown was at his first Annual Conference as a delegate.

C. G. Andrews was elected Secretary; J. A. B. Jones, Assistant; John T. Cameron, Recording Secretary; and J. J. Smylie, Statistical Secretary.

Changes in Conference Membership

One was *received by transfer:* Charles W. Calhoun, from the Alabama Conference.

Three were *removed by transfer* to other Conferences: H. W. Featherstun, to the Los Angeles Conference; U. B. Phillips, to the East Texas Conference; and E. E. Hamilton, to the Memphis Conference.

The class *admitted on trial* was a very promising one, and subsequently did good service: Clarence A. Powell from the Yazoo circuit; Benjamin Franklin Jones, from the Fayette circuit; D. M. Rush, from the Jackson, La., and Pipkin Chapel circuit; Thomas C. Bradford and Few Ball from the Beauregard and Wesson circuit; William W. Simmons from Providence circuit; Benton S. Rayner, from the Hickory circuit; J. Perry Drake from

Natchez station; and Inman W. Cooper, from Brookhaven.

Five were *received into full connection:* V. Hicks Nelson, Beverly Carradine, Curtis D. Cecil, Ruffin T. Davis, William W. Hopper.

Ordained deacon: V. H. Nelson, B. R. Carradine, C. D. Cecil, R. T. Davis, and W. W. Hopper, traveling preachers; T. Foster and W. B. Gilbert, local preachers.

Ordained elder: J. W. Ellison, J. B. K. Smith, J. W. McLaurin, R. Bradley, and T. B. Holloman, traveling preachers; and George Morrison, local preacher.

Located: J. S. Harris, H. J. Harris, C. R. Benson, and W. W. Hopper.

Only one preacher had *died* during the year, James Long.

Superannuated: The only new superannuate at this session was the veteran Daniel Andrew Jackson Parker.

Withdrawn: The name of George W. Davidson was erased from the roll at his own request.

Religious Literature

T. L. Mellen, a lay delegate, wrote the report of the Committee on Religious Literature, commending the *New Orleans Christian Advocate,* edited by Linus Parker and published by Rev. R. J. Harp; also the Sunday School literature, edited by W. G. E. Cunnyngham, sustaining the high grade established by Dr. A. G. Haygood; and also the *Southern Review,* edited by Dr. A. T. Bledsoe.

Jesse McKay

Soon after Conference death claimed Jesse McKay, a superannuate, who died on December 24, 1876, at his residence four miles west of Hillsboro.

Jesse McKay had come to the Mississippi Conference in the union with the Methodist Protestant Church in 1871, and had been on the superannuate roll since that time. Born in Sumter District, South Carolina, February 19, 1795, he joined the Methodist Church on his twelfth birthday, and professed conversion one week later. In the fall of 1811 he moved to Maury county, Tennessee, with his parents, and from there to Amite county in the Mississippi Territory. He was a member of one of the first Methodist churches in that new country. He was a soldier in the War of 1812; married Miss Cassie Winburn on January 16, 1816; moved to Madison county in 1832 and to Scott county in 1836, soon after it had been purchased by the government from the Choctaw Indians.

The first Methodist church in Scott county was organized in his home in the early part of 1836, with seven members, and he was appointed class leader under Elijah Steele, pastor. In the same year a church was erected, by Jesse McKay and M. T. Sigrest. The church still remains as an organization under the name of Hillsboro. In 1840 Jesse McKay was licensed to preach, and sometime afterwards he united with the Methodist Protestant Church. He served in that church for many years until his age and health forced him to superannuate. For the most part he served in Scott county, having a home there, where he was in good circumstances.

His first wife having died in 1862, in 1865 he married Mrs. Ellen Baker; one son was born of this union, and he was in his twelfth year when his father died.

The *Advocate* Young People's Column

From Pearlington, on December 25, 1876, Iota wrote a very beautiful letter in the Young People's Column of the *Advocate.*

The youthful James T. Abney of Montrose had a letter in this column in November 1876. He became one of our most useful and faithful preachers.

Young Hicks M. Ellis, who later was also to be a very useful preacher and member of the Conference, wrote a letter on January 5, 1877, from Meridian where his father, John A. Ellis, was presiding elder. He wrote in answer to the question which asked which chapter of the Bible contains the word children more than 90 times: Ezra 2.

Also a Sunday School pupil of I. W. Cooper's school at Pearlington, in a letter dated January 7, 1877, told how she liked her pastor.

This column was usually filled with interesting letters from children and young people throughout the Conference, many of whom became leaders and attained distinction in the church.

Prohibition a Burning Question

The matter of prohibition was uppermost in the minds of the preachers and the church during these days, and many strong articles from various pens were published. Among them was one from R. J. Jones of Meridian, who quoted from reports of the Mississippi State Council of the Friends of Temperance which had charged that the ministers of the gospel in Mississippi were generally indifferent to the cause of temperance. In reply, R. J. Jones said that if the temperance cause were deprived of the support and help which it received from the ministers and members of the church, it would be a helpless cause. His rebuke was logical and scathing and his conclusions correct.

Conferences of 1813, 1814, 1815

During the year John G. Jones, historian of the Conference, came to the conclusion that the first three sessions of the Mississippi Conference were legal sessions. Formerly he had seemed to doubt that they were. He wrote:

> "I am aware that the modest and inexperienced young ministers who composed the first Mississippi Conference, November 1, 1813, called it and its two immediate successors informal Conferences, because no Bishop was present; but all the antecedent facts, as well as their acts and records, show that these Conferences were as legal as any Annual Conference from which a Bishop is kept away by unavoidable circumstances."

The dating of the Annual Conference from 1813 is evidently correct. It is interesting, however, to note that John G. Jones himself changed his opinion on this moot question.

C. C. Watkins

Calvin C. Watkins, who had been granted a supernumerary relationship at the last session of the Conference because of failing health, died at his home in Jefferson county of pneumonia on Sunday morning, May 13.

Born in Jefferson county, September 8, 1821, he had been converted in 1839 and joined the church. Soon thereafter he was licensed to exhort, but he was not licensed to preach until 1866. He was ordained local deacon in 1870 and admitted on trial in 1872, at the age of 51. He gave four years of faithful service as pastor on the St. Helena, Bayou Sara, and Meadville circuits.

His memoir described him as "a preacher of fair abilities—able in prayer—gifted in song—and earnest in zeal for the church."

District Conferences

The Jackson District Conference was held at Yazoo City. Bishop Wightman presided and preached on Sunday morning at the Methodist church. An offering was taken for the Publishing House amounting to $100. Other preaching during the Conference was done by Dr. Linus Parker at the Presbyterian church, President H. F. Johnson, and Dr. C. B. Galloway. Those elected delegates to the Annual Conference were: W. L. Nugent, Jas. E. Coker, Jno. T. Cameron, and D. Bunch.

The Vicksburg District Conference met at Fayette on Thursday, May 17, and adjourned on Saturday. It was called to order by F. M. Featherstun, P. E., who presided the first day. Bishop Wightman was in the chair on the second and third days. J. Perry Drake was secretary. The Conference passed unanimously a resolution against attending dances, theaters, and circuses, and participating in raffling and kindred practices. There was preaching twice daily; the Bishop preached on Saturday and Sunday. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: Dr. C. K. Marshall, T. L. Mellen, R. E. Richardson, and G. W. Humphries.

The Brandon District Conference convened at Brandon on Thursday, June 7, and adjourned on Saturday afternoon. Bishop Wightman presided and preached twice in great power. W. M. Thornton was the Secretary. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: Irvin Miller, A. G. Mayers, W. M. Thornton, and Jared Watts.

The Seashore District Conference was held at Handsboro, July 12-14. Thomas Price, P.E., presided the first two days, while Bishop Keener was present and presided the third day. W. W. Hopper was secretary. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: Dr. D. M. Dunlap, Jasper L. Russ, E. J. Griffin, and J. M. Foxworth.

The Woodville District Conference met at Clinton, Louisiana, on July 27. Thomas W. Brown was elected president because of the absence of J. L. Forsyth, P.E. F. D. Brame was elected secretary. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: Rev. P. S. Petty, J. D. Nettles, Thomas Garnett, and F. D. Brame. Services were held morning and night during the Conference and the Clinton revival meeting continued for two weeks with Ira B. Robertson, C. D. Cecil, J. A. Godfrey, and John W. Chambers remaining to assist the pastor, J. W. McLaurin; there were 22 accessions to the church.

Commencement Exercises

The commencement exercises of East Mississippi Female College embraced the time from May 30 to June 6. The sermon was preached by W. H. Watkins, of Vicksburg. The address to the alumnae association and the graduating class was delivered by Bishop Wightman. There were 18 graduates in this the most prosperous year of the school thus far.

The exercises of Centenary College began July 8. An "excellent and appropriate" sermon was preached by Harvey F. Johnson in place of W. E. M. Linfield who was unable to be present. The alumni association was addressed by Henry L. Pond, Esq., on the subject, "Christianity the Security of Republican Government." Hon. E. John Ellis rose to great heights in addressing the Literary Society on "The Mission of the South," before an audience of 1,500 persons. There were three graduates: Isaac Wall, Whyte Glendower, and Tiff Foster; each received the Bachelor of Arts degree.

Whitworth closed successfully with the largest attendance it had had, 222, and with 20 graduates.

Various Items

W. R. Stuart, a leading Methodist, after whom the famous Stuart pecan was named and by whom it was developed, was a specialist in growing and selling orange trees. He had as many as 25,000 on hand at a time at Ocean Springs. Oranges were freely grown along the coast in his day, both satsumas and the large oranges.

Philip Hallaran, secretary, announced a meeting of the board of trustees of the Seashore Campground for March 28 and 29, and invited all persons to come who were interested in securing tents or lots for building, or otherwise interested. The camp meeting was to begin on July 18, and all persons having produce for sale might offer it during the week, but not on Sunday.

A sacred concert was held at the Coliseum Baptist Church, New Orleans, for Centenary College, now 52 years old. Bishop Keener invited the interest and attendance of the people, and plead for its support. It had no endowment, and the expenses were reduced to the lowest possible figure. It was the college in which the Mississippi Conference was vitally interested.

Announcement was made by A. H. Redford, Agent, that the various Conferences had contributed $18,829.53 for the relief of The Publishing House. The Mississippi Conference had contributed $812.92, and the North Mississippi Conference $978.55.

J. M. Weems, pastor at Hazlehurst, reported the church debt paid, and announced plans to proceed slowly in beautifying the property, as they had learned by experience to keep clear of debt.

Joseph Nicholson, a superannuate of the Conference, living at Ocean Springs, was severely injured by being thrown from a wagon and knocked down and trodden by a frightened horse.

Camp Meetings

The Seashore camp meeting of 1877 was officially joined by the Mobile District and the Seashore District; the five previous meetings were under the direction of the New Orleans District alone. Charles O. Chalmers, executive secretary and treasurer, gives the account of it as follows:

> "So, in 1877, to more perfectly carry out the objects and designs of the camp meeting enterprise, the ownership, management and control of the Seashore Campground, heretofore confined to the New Orleans District, was, at the request of the trustees and the action of the New Orleans District Conference, extended to the Mobile District and the Seashore District Conferences. The debt on the grounds, made when the second plot of ground was purchased, had been paid, and there was nothing in the way to prevent the Mobile and the Seashore District Conferences from taking part. A new charter corresponding to the change was drawn up under the general laws of the State of Louisiana, the new charter being granted to "The Trustees of the Seashore Camp Ground."

The New Orleans Christian Advocate reported the sixth annual Seashore camp meeting, July 18-26, as probably the best. There were attendants from Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas; and it is estimated that about 1,000 persons were in the ground on weekdays and probably 2,000 on Sundays, including nearly 100 preachers present, from first to last, among them many leading and representative men. There were four sermons a day and conversions daily, beginning with three at the first service and totaling 150 or more in all.

The Crystal Springs camp meeting was held August 22-30, and all preachers were cordially invited with the promise of free entertainment. It was directed by H. F. Johnson; there were 120 conversions and 35 additions. There were 46 ministers present. The number of tents on the ground was 53.

Robert B. Downer, pastor of the Newton circuit, announced a camp meeting five miles south of Hickory to begin Thursday night, September 6, and invited the pastors of the Meridian and Brandon districts.

J. D. Hays, pastor, announced a camp meeting at Lake, on the V & M Railroad, for Friday, September 14, and invited the preachers of the Brandon District to attend.

The Salem camp meeting in Jackson county began October 4 and closed the following Monday night. It is the oldest campground in the Mississippi Conference. Twelve ministers were present, and about 500 attended the meeting; there were 10 accessions.

Revivals

At China Grove, Parmenas Howard, pastor, was assisted in a revival by H. P. and W. B. Lewis, and local preachers; there were 12 or 15 conversions and 23 accessions.

At Sartin's church the revival resulted in 21 accessions.

At Mt. Nebo, Meadville circuit, B. F. Jones, pastor, was assisted in a gracious revival by James A. Godfrey, presiding elder, on Saturday and Sunday, on the occasion of the third quarterly conference. The pastor continued the meeting, and there were 17 accessions.

At Chapel church, Mt. Carmel circuit, Seashore District, Wm. P. Long, pastor, was assisted by J. G. Ingram and J. M. Whitehead; there were four accessions, two infant baptisms, and six pledged to hold family prayer.

On the Ellisville Mission, where J. P. Williams was the supply pastor, D. A. Little, presiding elder, preached in two well-attended meetings. One church was organized with 11 members, and seven were added to the church. At Bethel church, eight miles from Ellisville, a third meeting was held by B. S. Raynor and W. P. Long, with 21 accessions.

W. B. Lewis, pastor of Fayette circuit, reported a meeting at Ebenezer church, eight miles east of Fayette, in Jefferson county. He says: "Ebenezer is the best country church I have any knowledge of." It was organized in July, 1876, with 53 members, mostly from two other churches on the circuit, and had increased its membership to 81. A seven day meeting was held, beginning on Saturday, August 11, resulting in 15 conversions and 25 members received. Ebenezer was originally a Presbyterian church and the building was sold by them to the Methodists. It was disbanded in 1920.

Mt. Carmel had an interesting meeting lasting eight days, with 10 accessions. D. W. Dillehay, pastor, was assisted by G. W. Brown of Westville.

At Handsboro 18 members united with the church in a meeting. A. B. Nicholson, pastor, failed in trying to get help, except one preacher assisted two days. Before the meeting there was not a person to lead in public prayer.

On the Westville circuit, G. W. Brown, pastor, there were held three meetings in which 34 were received into the church.

St. Helena circuit, James S. Parker, pastor, reported 140 additions to the church and others waiting to be received.

Raleigh circuit, R. A. Sibley, pastor, reported over 40 accessions and as many conversions.

At Hopewell church on the Columbia circuit, C. J. Phillips, pastor, held a meeting which resulted in 21 accessions. A new church had been built at Byrd's chapel, and he expected to build a parsonage that fall.

McGowan circuit, B. S. Rayner, pastor, held meetings at all churches with about one-third increase in membership and with church property improved considerably during the year.

At Waynesboro D. G. W. Ellis was assisted by J. A. Ellis, presiding elder, and R. J. Jones; at State Line he held the meeting himself, and there were seven accessions.

Enterprise station, H. R. Singleton, pastor, reported many things supplied to the parsonage, and a fine meeting in which he was assisted by T. S. West of Shubuta and Beverly Carradine of Brandon.

At Shubuta, T. S. West, pastor, reported that an excellent meeting was held with 23 accessions and about 12 conversions.

Wesson reported a most gracious meeting where T. C. Bradford, pastor, was assisted by J. T. Heard of Brookhaven; there were 34 accessions and about 20 conversions, and a general revival of the membership.

Thomas Price, presiding elder, gave a summary of the work in the Seashore District. Up to November 1, there had been 217 members added. Interesting meetings had been held at Coalville, Handsboro, and Biloxi, on the Ocean Springs charge; at Salem and Mount Pleasant on the Pascagoula circuit; at Hopewell and Byrd's chapel on the Columbia circuit; and at Gainesville on the Pearlington circuit. A new church had been built on the Pearlington circuit and another was in the process of erection, while still another church and parsonage were to be built in the town of Pearlington, with materials and money partly provided for. Poitevent and Favre would contribute from their mills all the lumber for both buildings. In Biloxi a good meeting was held by the presiding elder, Thomas Price, A. B. Nicholson, and W. W. Hopper.

The Conference Organ

The Publishing Committee of the *Advocate* met on the Seashore Campground; the proceedings were reported by Dr. John Mathews, appointed for that purpose. The paper was published by contract with R. J. Harp.

In the issue of November 29, 1877, the editorial page was draped in mourning, announcing the death of Bishop Enoch

M. Marvin in St. Louis on November 26. He had been elected Bishop in New Orleans in 1866. The sermon at his funeral was preached by Bishop Holland N. McTyeire.

Some of the Departed

Mrs. Elizabeth Goodwin Johnson died in Satartia, Yazoo county, on January 1, 1877. Born in Claiborne county in 1813, she was converted and joined the church when quite young. She first married John Murphy, a Christian gentleman who passed away on December 27, 1853. She then married R. G. Johnson, one of nature's noblemen. She was a devout Christian.

Allen V. Montgomery, a member of Soule's Chapel in Madison county, died on January 14, aged 72. A native of Virginia, he went to Maury county, Tennessee, as a youth and grew up to manhood. He married Miss Ella Gill in 1832 and came to Madison county, Mississippi. Though he had neglected religion and the church till 1832, he became zealous for the cause of the Lord and loved the church, its doctrines and discipline, its members and service and ministers. With E. M. Chambers and J. H. Stone, he was largely responsible for the building of the historic Soule's Chapel.

Walter W. Carré, a native of Hancock county, died in New Orleans on January 13, aged 47. He was a steward in Carondelet Street church, New Orleans, for several years.

Rev. T. W. Linder died in Jasper county on January 29, nearly 64. A native of South Carolina, he moved to Jones county when a lad and later lived in Wayne county six years before moving to Jasper. His wife was the daughter of John Trest. He was originally a member of the Methodist Protestant Church, but at the time of the union he was a member of the Congregational Methodist Church; then he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and remained till his death.

F. M. Vaughan, aged 47, died near Pascagoula on February 11. Married three times, he left five children by his last wife, Ella

Murrah, of Pickens county, Alabama. He was a steward and Sunday School superintendent.

Mrs. Lucie V. Delk, a member of the Mt. Hebron church in Kemper county, died on February 21, aged 32. Reared in Eutaw, Alabama, she married Dr. Willis Merriweather of Green county, Alabama, and moved to Kemper county, Mississippi, where he died after a few years. In 1869 she married J. R. Delk.

Mrs. Sallie Chambers, wife of C. M. Chambers of Madison county, died in the early part of the year. She was married two years before her death, in Soule Chapel.

Annie M. Leonard, the only daughter of Dr. Thomas and Sue Leonard, died near Pearlington on March 4, aged 17. One Sunday she occupied her place in the Sunday School; the next she had gone to her reward.

Rev. H. C. Hays, an old-fashioned Methodist, died at his home in Leake county, on March 6. He was a native of Georgia.

J. C. Crawford died near Hazlehurst on March 11, nearly 68 years old. Born in Louisiana, he moved with his parents and settled near Crystal Springs and lived there till 1871. For 45 years he was a member of the Methodist church, a devout Christian, steward, and Sunday School superintendent. He married Miss Sarah A. Hall on June 1, 1829.

William W. Heidelberg died at his residence near Beaver Dam in Clarke county on March 19, aged 35. He was born and brought up in Jasper county. He first married Sarah E. Husbands. After her death in 1870, he married Anna L. Bowen, daughter of P. P. Bowen, a Baptist minister.

Mrs. John F. Heidelberg, formerly Nancy J. Ross, died near Beaver Dam in Clarke county on April 6 at the age of 30.

Mrs. Mariah T. Forsyth died in Jackson, La., on April 13. A daughter of Capt. William and Anna Shepard, she married Rev. J. L. Forsyth who was then a member of the Missouri Conference. They moved to Jackson, Louisiana, late in her husband's ministry.

John O. Hunter, for 40 years a citizen of Yazoo City and a faithful and liberal member of the Methodist church there, died on April 29, at the age of 74. A native of Gates county, North Carolina, he united with the church when a young man at a camp meeting in that county, September, 1823.

W. W. Felder, born in Pike county, May 16, 1815, departed this life on June 21, 1877. In the year 1835 he married Cynthia Isabel Hope, and to this union there were born two sons and four daughters. The mother died February 17, 1848; and in November, 1848, he married Sarah Curtis Felder, and to them were born three sons and two daughters.

Mrs. Nancy Ann Hathorn, daughter of William and Mary Blount, was born in Covington county, October 27, 1849; she was married to W. W. Hathorn, January 23, 1867, and died July 5, 1877. When 15 she united with Santee church.

Mrs. Nancy Crawford died at the age of 72 at the residence of Dr. T. G. Crawford, in Jones county on July 9. She was the daughter of John and Nancy Lewis from Hancock county, Georgia; she married B. H. Crawford in 1825, and was left a widow in 1846, the mother of 10 children. She was a faithful member of the church for 53 years.

Mrs. Lois A. Weston, wife of Henry Weston of Logtown, died September 15, 1877, the mother of nine children. The funeral was conducted in the family home in Logtown by her pastor, I. W. Cooper, and she was buried in Pearlington in the family burying grounds. The Westons have contributed much to Methodism in that section, and the influence of that good woman lingers yet, after a period of seven decades. She was a leading spirit in building the first church in Logtown.

Mrs. Julia A. Loflin, wife of James Loflin, daughter of John and Jane Price, was born in Covington county, April 23, 1844, and died in Bryam, Hinds county, September 14, 1877.

Mrs. Sarah Ann Davidson, daughter of Samuel McKay, one of the pioneer preachers of this state, and a native of Madison county, died at her home near Belmont, Sumpter county, Alabama, in October.

Mrs. Mary Louise Smith, wife of William H. Smith, died at her home in Jackson county on November 19, aged 32. She was a member of the well-known Vaughan family of that county.

Mrs. Rosa C. W. Hays, wife of George J. Hays, passed away at her residence in Philadelphia, Neshoba county, in December, 1877. She had been a member of the Philadelphia church since 1857.

Mrs. Ann Jane Grace, the wife of G. B. Grace who was an efficient class leader and steward, died at her home in Marion on October 24, 1877, aged 62. A native of Antrim, Ireland, she married in Alabama in 1835, and became the mother of nine children. Having become a Methodist in 1831, she greatly loved the Methodist doctrine and discipline.

Mrs. Deborah Starling, wife of H. F. Starling, died near Lake in Newton county on December 3, aged 65. Born in North Carolina she and her husband came to Mississippi in 1834.

CHAPTER IX

1878

Conference at Jackson

The Conference convened at Jackson for the sixth time, on December 5, 1877. Bishop Enoch M. Marvin was the appointed president but had died on November 26. Bishop Holland N. McTyeire, the appointed substitute, had not reached the Conference at the hour for opening. Charles G. Andrews, secretary of last year, called the Conference to order. On the second ballot William H. Watkins was elected chairman, and he presided until the arrival of Bishop McTyeire on Thursday morning. There were 98 clerical and 23 lay members present during the Conference.

C. G. Andrews was elected secretary, J. A. B. Jones his assistant, J. T. Cameron recording secretary, and H. F. Johnson statistical secretary. Charles B. Galloway was pastor and W. B. Hines was presiding elder.

Admitted on Trial

Isaac D. Wall, from the Jackson, Louisiana circuit; R. French Flowers, from Crystal Springs station; James T. Graham, from Marion circuit; H. Mellard Dubose, from Shubuta and McGowan; John Stewart Calhoun, from East Pascagoula circuit; David F. Guice, from the Meadville circuit; and John S. Hutton, from the Mount Olivet circuit, were admitted on trial.

Discontinued

Charles J. Phillips and Thomas W. Adams were discontinued at their own requests; the latter returned in a few years to maintain a place of leadership in the Conference for forty years, but Uncle Charlie Phillips maintained his ministerial relation in the local ranks until his death some fifteen years ago. Visitors to New Prospect and Salem campgrounds will remember him over a period of years as a familiar figure on these sacred spots. His material resources were often meager and his economic career during his long local ministry was turbulent, but his end was peace. Mrs. Richard Allman, formerly of Lucedale, is a daughter of C. J. Phillips.

Readmitted

George M. Gilmore, William W. Hopper, and Phillip H. Napier, men of ability and value to the Conference, were readmitted.

Transfers

William P. Andrews from the Pacific Conference and Hiram R. Caldwell from the North Mississippi Conference were received by transfer.

Andrew J. Coleman was transferred to the Alabama Conference, John S. Hutton to the Los Angeles Conference, John Ritchie to the North Mississippi Conference, J. T. Graham to the Louisiana Conference, and M. B. Sharbrough to the Pacific Conference.

Ordinations

Deacons: Green W. Brown and Malachi B. Sharbrough were ordained traveling deacons; J. S. Hutton, C. A. Powell, T. J. Miller, A. D. Miller, and W. B. King were ordained local deacons.

Elders: D. A. Little, D. C. Langford, J. S. Parker, D. P. Bradford, and L. R. Featherstun were ordained traveling elders; W. T. Beall and Robert C. Bethea were ordained local elders.

Located

Lyman Carley, David Merchant, Levi P. Meador, and Thomas B. Walden located at this session, but the first three were readmitted later and served long and usefully in the Conference.

Superannuated

A. B. Stewart and D. W. Dillehay, both of whom lived until 1889, were the only two new superannuates at this Conference.

William Wadsworth

William Wadsworth had not been able to attend the Annual Conference, but was appointed to serve Scotland circuit by the Conference which closed on December 11. On Christmas day, 1877, two weeks later, he closed his eyes to his earthly labors, dying at his home in the Pleasant Valley section of Copiah county.

Born of pious parents in Hinds county, near Jackson, Mississippi, in 1830, he moved to Louisiana with his parents and other members of the family in 1836. In 1847 he was converted, while reading his Bible on his knees, and immediately entered upon his ministerial journey and labors that culminated only at his death. He was received on trial at the Conference of 1850. His first charge was Leaf River circuit, and he continued to serve as a circuit preacher and presiding elder till he was unable to go to the final appointment the Conference gave him. His presiding elder, W. E. M. Linfield, preached his funeral sermon from John 13:26 and with saddened hearts and hands they laid his body to rest in the Pleasant Valley cemetery.

At his death he left a fine family, who have made a noble record of Christian service. Miss Lois Cooper, one of our missionaries to Japan, is a granddaughter of William Wadsworth.

Bishop H. M. DuBose

Horace Mellard DuBose, then a young man teaching school at Paulding, in Jasper County, had been licensed to preach at Hopewell church near Paulding during 1876. Mr. DuBose was admitted on trial into the Mississippi Conference in 1877 and sent to Chotard circuit, Vicksburg District, where there were six members on the entire charge. This talented young man began at once to go forward into a wide range of service—pastoral, editorial, executive. He was elected Bishop in 1918 and closed his 57 years of active service at Jackson, Mississippi, during the General Conference of 1934, the same city where he was admitted on trial.

Delegates to General Conference

The Conference elected the following delegates to the next General Conference: *Clerical,* C. G. Andrews, H. F. Johnson, W. H. Watkins, Richard Abbey, and John A. Ellis; *Lay,* C. K. Marshall, S. B. Watts, W. L. Nugent, Robert Babington, and T. L. Mellen; *Clerical Reserves,* W. L. C. Hunnicutt, W. E. M. Linfield, H. H. Montgomery, and Charles B. Galloway; *Lay Reserves,* Irvin Miller, C. R. Rencher, D. Bunch, and W. M. Thornton.

The General Conference

The General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, convened in the First Methodist Church, Atlanta, on May 1, 1878, the venerable Bishop George F. Pierce presiding. There were 237 members present. Thomas O. Summers of the Alabama Conference was elected secretary and Atticus G. Haygood of the North Georgia Conference was elected as his assistant.

Delegates present from the Mississippi Conference were: Charles G. Andrews, Harvey F. Johnson, William H. Watkins, Richard Abbey, and John A. Ellis, clerical delegates, and C. K. Marshall, Samuel B. Watts, William L. Nugent, Robert Babington, and Thomas L. Mellen, lay delegates.

The venerable William H. Watkins of the Mississippi Conference conducted the opening worship for the General Conference session. Richard Abbey, also of the Mississippi delegation, presented his report as special agent for the prosecution of claims by the Nashville Publishing House against the United States for damage done to the property during the War Between the States.

No Bishops were elected during this session of the General

Conference and it is generally considered that not much of a constructive nature took place. However, plans were made for the first Ecumenical Conference, to be held in 1881, and for the proper observance of the centennial of American Methodism in 1884.

The authorizing of the establishment of the Woman's Missionary Society by this session of the General Conference makes it noteworthy in the annals of Methodism.

Barnabas Pipkin

This venerable soldier of the cross went to his reward at the age of 82, having been superannuated at the Conference of 1870. He was born in Wayne county, North Carolina, February 27, 1795, and was converted at Regan's church, Pulaska county, Georgia. He entered the South Carolina Conference in the beginning of the year 1819, was transferred to the Mississippi Conference in 1821, in deacon's orders, and was a minister for nearly 60 years. After more than seven years spent as a superannuate, he died in great peace at his residence in St. Helena parish, Louisiana, May 11, 1878. He was twice married—first to Miss Elizabeth Hanna, and later to Mrs. Rachel A. Bradford, who was the mother of the Revs. T. C. and D. P. Bradford.

Of the 33 years he spent in the active ministry, 20 were spent as presiding elder of various districts. He was buried at Clinton, Louisiana, along with Thomas Clinton and Geo. H. Clinton.

Our Schools

The report of the Committee on Education at the Annual Conference, T. B. Holloman chairman, stated that the schools and colleges were prospering: Centenary College, C. G. Andrews, president, had better prospects and larger attendance than last year; Port Gibson Collegiate Academy was doing good work and gradually improving, J. A. B. Jones being the president; East Mississippi Female College was in a prosperous condition with J. W. Adkisson as president and J. A. Ellis as financial agent; Whitworth College, H. F. Johnson, president, had two hundred and twenty students last year and twenty graduates and had completed some necessary improvements which made for better living and teaching conditions.

Commencements

Dr. C. K. Marshall preached the 1878 commencement sermon at Vanderbilt University on Sunday, May 26, from the text "I am the bread of life." Bishop Kavanaugh delivered a discourse before the theological students at the evening hour.

At Whitworth College Bishop Holland N. McTyeire preached the commencement sermon from the text "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

Commencement exercises at Port Gibson Collegiate Academy included addresses by three Conference leaders: W. L. C. Hunnicutt on the subject of Education; R. S. Woodward on "The Moral and Religious Influence of Women in Society"; E. H. Mounger, who gave an appropriate address in delivering medals to the young ladies who had distinguished themselves during the session.

Harvey F. Johnson, president of Whitworth College, announced that the cornerstone of the new building would be laid on August 21, 1878, with Masonic ceremonies. Ground was broken on July 31 by Judge J. B. Chrisman. Hon. Jefferson Davis and Hon. L. Q. C. Lamar were invited to deliver addresses at the laying of the cornerstone.

Yellow Fever

The year 1878 was noted for the great scourge of yellow fever, about which science knew very little at the time. Thousands died of it, especially in Mississippi and Louisiana.

W. H. Watkins, Jackson pastor, wrote in late August that Charles B. Galloway of Vicksburg was recovering from a sharp attack. He did not leave his post of duty when the scourge came, neither did any of the pastors in Jackson. Dr. Galloway was very low at one time and his obituary was actually published in the newspapers. Concerning this he himself wrote: "Though reported in the press as having died of the plague in our city, I still live. Dear friends thought me dying several times, but God has raised me up, I trust for more consecrated service and enlarged usefulness. Dr. Marshall has been constantly at work doing much that devolved on me during my illness."

The yellow fever was so bad in Jackson at that time (144 cases) that the worship services of the Methodist church and the Presbyterian church were combined in a single service. Dr. Hunter, of the Presbyterian church, officiated at the Methodist church with about twenty present. Neither Dr. Hunter nor Dr. Watkins, Jackson Methodist pastor, had yellow fever.

E. H. Mounger, pastor at Port Gibson, wrote at length of the conditions there. He had formerly passed through an epidemic of the same disease but was among the first to be stricken at Port Gibson. Two members of his family had gone to the country, but the four who remained were all stricken at the same time with the disease but recovered.

The *New Orleans Christian Advocate*, the Conference organ, on account of prevailing conditions, appeared in four-page editions from late September through November, 1878.

Governor John M. Stone issued a proclamation that the people gather at their respective places of worship on September 30 and offer up their united petitions in prayer to avert this terrible pestilence.

Seashore Campground

Although announced to begin on July 10 for an eight or ten-day period it seems that the Seashore Camp Meeting was not held this year on account of yellow fever. C. O. Chalmers gives the following account of the situation in 1878:

> "On April 19, 1878, the property of the 'Board of Campmeeting Trustees' of the New Orleans District of the Louisiana Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was deeded to 'Trustees of the Seashore Campground,' this being done so as to take in the Mobile District and the Seashore District Conferences as part owners of the Camp Ground.
>
> "In 1878 yellow fever appeared in the City of New Orleans and various parts of the country. A rigid quarantine was declared in Mobile, and visitors from Alabama and other states departed at once for their homes. The fever spread rapidly from city to city and was soon reported upon the Gulf Coast. It visited Pass Christian, Mississippi City, and Biloxi, thus surrounding the Camp Ground on either side, yet there was not a case of fever upon the grounds. There resided on the Camp Ground during the entire summer a community of forty families and parts of families, constituting a population of 225 to 250 souls, enjoying the most perfect health and entire freedom from the epidemic."

Mr. Chalmers evidently employs the word "enjoying" in its general meaning as applied to health and not to the state of mind. Those who have any memory of a yellow fever epidemic can easily recall the stark terror that prevails in the land. The passing of this blighting curse has been one of the major achievements of the last half-century in medical science.

The story of the transition of the Seashore Camp Meeting from a Louisiana institution to a joint enterprise of the three adjoining districts is an interesting one. The project was originally initiated by the New Orleans District, its chief proponent being the late Wm. H. Foster. In fact its location on the Mississippi Gulf Coast was not a part of the original suggestion. It was desired that the district have a campground, and obviously the low lands around New Orleans were not suitable for one. One proposal was that it should be established somewhere on Pearl River, northeast of New Orleans, probably near the town of Covington, Louisiana. But the Mississippi Gulf Coast was accessible, both by water and by railroad (the Louisville and Nashville railroad having been established a few years before—1869), and naturally these were determining factors. The joint ownership of Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama Methodists continues until the present time.

Reports from the Field

M. B. Sharbrough, who had transferred to the Pacific Conference at the last session, wrote from Chico, California, that he had seven railroad stations comprising his circuit, besides all the country territory he could serve.

R. D. Norsworthy, formerly of Yazoo City, wrote of his new field at Canton, where the dilapidated brick building was about torn down and a new frame building almost completed. This old brick church had stood since 1848, the first building to be erected on the site of the present church building. In it was held the Annual Conference of 1853, at which James W. Lambuth and his bride volunteered for service in China.

The completion of a new parsonage, well furnished with new furniture, was reported by A. B. Nicholson at Pearlington. No other church was in the town of Pearlington except the Methodist; there were three churches on the charge, all of them on Pearl River.

J. Perry Drake, pastor of the Kingston circuit, held a great meeting at Locust Grove in Adams county, with 17 conversions and 12 additions. Locust Grove has long since ceased to be, but many of the best members of our church in Natchez and elsewhere are spiritual descendants of the Locust Grove membership. In 1901 the church was combined with Linwood to form the Pine Grove church which burned in 1917 and was not replaced.

Henry J. Harris wrote interestingly of his charge, Clover Hill in Issaquena county, where a church and parsonage were being erected.

Warren C. Black had held a two-week meeting at his church at Camden, October 13-27, 1878, with 21 adults added to the church.

Churches Organized

Pleasant Grove church, Waynesboro circuit, had its beginning during 1878. On December 20, 1877, the land was deeded to the church by E. D. Pittman and Sarah Pittman, his wife, the following trustees being named in the deed: A. Trotter, J. B. Moody, N. R. Jones, A. J. Chapman, D. A. Cameron, John Everitt, and F. M. Woodward. The church stood some six miles from its present location and was organized by the father of Bishop Horace M. DuBose.

Dover's Chapel, in Yazoo county, was organized about 1878. It was established as a union church in 1854 and used by the Methodists, Baptists, and Presbyterians, each having one Sunday during the month. The building was two-story, with a Masonic lodge room overhead. The original Methodist building stood until 1935, when it was replaced by a $1,300.00 brick veneer building.

At Pelahatchie a Methodist church was organized and a building constructed; it was on a mission that had 12 or 15 preaching places. Claiborne McDonald was pastor and A. D. Miller was junior preacher. The site of the building has remained the same through the years. Pelahatchie is the home church of J. A. Lindsey, Jr., statistician of the Mississippi Conference.

Poplar Springs, a church in Marion county, was organized this year.

District Conferences

We have record of only two District Conferences meeting this year:

The Meridian District Conference met at Shubuta on Friday, June 14, Bishop McTyeire presiding; John A. Ellis was the presiding elder and Dr. T. S. West, later a very effective member of the Conference, served as secretary. Dr. C. R. Rencher, Dr. C. W. Avera, B. F. Ormond, and S. B. Watts were elected delegates to the Annual Conference.

The Vicksburg District Conference met at Natchez, June 27-29, with the presiding elder in the chair. N. J. Vick was elected secretary. Dr. C. K. Marshall, G. W. Humphries, G. J. Bahin, and D. S. Davenport were elected delegates to Annual Conference.

Missionary Work

Dr. J. W. Lambuth, missionary to China, suggested the local congregations and church schools, instead of taking sporadic and occasional collections, should join with others and agree to support a missionary by the payment of seven or eight dollars a month or build churches for $150.00 to $300.00. This suggestion was approved by Charles B. Galloway, pastor at Vicksburg, whose church supported a missionary.

The missionary interests of the church were receiving increased attention following the organization of the Woman's Missionary Society by the recent General Conference. Inman W. Cooper, pastor at Columbia, reported that Columbia had a society of about 60 members and was helping to support a Mexican pastor, F. D. Villegas of Mexico City.

The Conference was also doing some missionary work at home. Lyman Carley had been assigned by his presiding elder, Thomas Price, to establish Methodism in parts of Marion and Hancock counties. Inman W. Cooper was appointed to raise money for the support of the project, for which the Columbia church gave a larger proportion than other churches. It is very likely that the oldest church in the Seashore District at the present time is Payne Chapel at Spring Cottage, successor to Union Academy, which was originally at or near the home of Joseph Ford. This church is mentioned as far back as 1816.

The Jones Golden Wedding

The most unique Golden Wedding anniversary on record took place at Port Gibson on August 31, 1878, when John G. Jones and his wife, Mrs. Jane Oliphant Ross Jones, came to the end of fifty years of happy married life. Announcements had been sent out to friends and relatives for an all-day open house. Before the day came, however, both were stricken with yellow fever and spent the day in bed. Children, grandchildren, and friends were quarantined out of Port Gibson. Mr. Jones wrote a letter of thanks to the many who remembered them with letters and gifts and said, "So far as we know we are the only white people above seventy who recovered."

Change of Place of Holding Conference

W. E. M. Linfield, presiding elder of the Brookhaven District, tendered the hospitality of that district to Meridian, which had been chosen as the place for the next Annual Conference. He suggested Hazlehurst, which had escaped yellow fever, as a suitable place for the Conference session. Bishop Paine announced that the Annual Conference would be held at Hazlehurst, December 18-23.

James Shanks

The following memoir of this good man was written by T. S. West, pastor at Shubuta:

> "James Shanks was born in Marion District, South Carolina, November 18, 1798. He died in Clarke county, Alabama, October 4, 1878. He was converted in 1827 and began to preach immediately. He entered the itinerant work in the Alabama Conference about 1832. He located in 1845 on account of the ill health of his wife. He moved to Mississippi in 1854; about this time his wife died and he again entered the lists of traveling preacher. It was then I first knew him. He labored faithfully, acceptably, and successfully until 1874, when he was superannuated. His last sickness was long and painful, but he had the comforts of religion in his last affliction. Some days before he died he expressed himself as being happier than he had ever been before. I asked him once if he shouted when he was converted; he said, 'Yes, for two years.' And he averred that he had more or less spiritual ecstasy for two years immediately after his conversion. His pilgrimage here lacked only a few days of four score years. He was a Methodist preacher a little over a half century. Scores were brought into the fold of Christ through his instrumentality, your humble servant among the number. May our last days be as full of religious comfort as his."

If James Shanks had done nothing more during his long and useful ministry than to bring Thomas Stirling West into the fold he would have more than justified his call to the ministry.

Hundreds and perhaps thousands, just as earnest as Dr. West, will rise up in the last day and call him blessed. We have not yet properly estimated the sum total of the contributions of men like James Shanks, who never hold prominent places in the church but who unceasingly work for the advancement of the Kingdom. His spiritual son, T. S. West, was for many years one of the most effective workers in Mississippi Methodism.

Daniel A. J. Parker

This great soul and excellent worker was admitted on trial into the Mississippi Conference December 9, 1839. During his active ministry he served Carrol circuit, Greensboro circuit, Trinity circuit (La.), Madison Colored mission, Holmes circuit, Lake Washington, Crystal Springs, Paulding, Rocky Springs Colored mission, Crystal Springs again, Grand Gulf Colored mission, Cayuga, Warren Colored mission, Cayuga again, Rocky Springs, Burtonton, Rocky Springs the second time, South Warren circuit, Cayuga for the third time, and Warren circuit. He spent two years as a local preacher, 28 years on circuits, and seven years on colored missions.

Like so many other ministers who lived in a day when parsonage homes were not provided, he established a home for himself and family in the historic Rocky Springs community and for many years went out from this home to serve nearby charges. The Annual Conference of 1876 granted him a superannuate relation and he settled down on his plantation to spend the evening of his life, after nearly 40 years in the active ministry of the Church.

Swiftly the dread disease of yellow fever, which ordinarily was confined to the cities, invaded the little community of Rocky Springs. Numbers of his neighbors fell victim, then the wife of his youth, and finally, on November 2, 1878, when the pestilence had almost spent its force, he himself passed away.

Deaths Among the Laymen

Notice is given in the *Advocate* in early January of this year of the death of *Dr. John Sample*, age 71, a local preacher, a resident at Summit or Brookhaven; also of the death of J. E. Westbrook at Adams, and of Mrs. Lizzie T. Nesmith at Oak Ridge. The memoir of the last named was signed by Mrs. Mannie Dove, Ben Johnson, and Miss Mollie Williams, a committee from the Sunday School. Also the death is noted of A. M. Campbell, Presbyterian minister, formerly a member of the Mississippi Conference, at St. Joseph, Louisiana.

The mother of Dr. C. G. Andrews, president of Centenary College, passed away in Jackson, Miss., on January 14, 1878.

Mrs. Caroline C. McCallum, the widow of a nephew of William Winans died on January 14. A native of Tennessee, she united with the church in early girlhood.

Mrs. Jasper L. Russ (Mary E. Armistead) was born in St. Bernard parish, Louisiana. She joined the Methodist church at Pearlington when quite young and was a very consistent Christian all her life.

Rev. David Pipes was born on Pine Ridge, near Natchez, November 12, 1798, his parents belonging to the first generation of Methodists in Mississippi. He was married three times: to Miss Sarah Holmes, to Miss Elizabeth Warner, and to Miss Minerva Flynn. He died at the home of his son, Isaac Pipes, in McClennan county, Texas.

John Miller died at his home in Wayne county on January 24, aged 74. Born in Marion District, South Carolina, where he spent his early manhood, he joined the church in 1830. He moved to Mississippi in 1852 and lived a consistent Christian life.

Mrs. Laura McFarland died in Meridian on February 13, 1878. A daughter of William H. and Clarrissa Thompson, she was born in North Carolina on March 16, 1835. In 1858 she married Simon Dunn, who died in 1863; and on May 23, 1867, she married again.

Rev. Thomas Chapman died at Paulding on February 20, 1878. Born in Wayne county, July 18, 1822, he was converted in 1860, licensed to preach about 1867, and ordained a deacon in 1873. He married Miss Mary E. McDonald of Noxubee county, who died a few years before his death.

Mrs. John F. Champenois, of Shubuta, died on June 8. Born in Spring Hill, near Mobile, November 11, 1844, she joined the church in 1872, and was a faithful and consistent member, a power in the Sunday School.

Mrs. Grace Weir Purnell, of Chotard, died at Brandon on June 18, aged 41. She was an exemplary Christian, patient in trial, devoted in life, peaceful in death.

Mrs. Pinckney A. Johnston, of the Mississippi Conference, died at Brookhaven on July 14. She was born January 15, 1845, joined the church in 1860, and was married July 12, 1865.

Mrs. Rebecca R. Bancroft, mother of Rev. George Bancroft, died at Sageville, near Meridian, on August 7, aged 78, in the home of her preacher son, who was pastor of Enterprise circuit. Two of her sons were preachers, and her daughter married Rev. T. Y. Ramsey of the North Mississippi Conference.

Mrs. Gilmore, widow of the late Rev. Elisa Gilmore, was born in Georgia, March 23, 1793, and died in Clarke county, Mississippi, on August 9, 1878, at the age of 85, having been a member of the Methodist church for 70 years. Three of her sons were ministers of the gospel.

Dr. John R. Applewhite, son of Rev. James Applewhite, was born in Marion county on February 21, 1818, and died in Oregon on October 26, 1878. He had spent most of his life at Vaiden. Rev. James Applewhite organized the first church in Hancock county about the year 1830; Theophulis Moody, later a member of the Alabama Conference, was a charter member.

Rev. John J. Harper, born at Auburn, Alabama, June 15, 1840, died in Rocky Springs, Mississippi, on October 29, 1878.

Mrs. Cynthia Nixon, wife of Rev. Thomas Nixon and daughter of James and Susanna Hutchins, moved to Big Sand, Claiborne county, from Georgia in 1820, and died at the home of her son, James E. W. Cook, child of her first husband, on November 5, aged 69. She was Thomas Nixon's last wife; a grandson of this couple lived near Wesson in 1939.

Henry Strong, an emigrant to Brazil from Brookhaven, died in his adopted country on November 6, 1878. He was a native of South Carolina.

Orville C. Rives, a brother of Mrs. Bishop Early, came to Mississippi from Virginia in 1829, and died on Deer Creek in Washington county on November 22, 1878, at the age of 77. His brother, John F. Rives, was President of Wesleyan Female College in Jackson before the War. He had a plantation near Raymond. Reeves Chapel church was built on his plantation and named for him, the name originally being Rives Chapel.

CHAPTER X

1879

Conference at Hazlehurst

The 1878 Annual Conference met at Hazlehurst December 18-23. Bishop Paine was appointed to preside over this Conference, but could not come. W. H. Watkins was elected president and presided until Friday morning when Bishop Keener arrived and assumed the chair until adjournment. The attendance was less than the previous year, there being only 76 clerical and 16 lay members present.

W. C. Black was elected statistical secretary; all other secretaries were re-elected. The following committee chairmen were appointed: Sunday Schools, Charles B. Galloway; Education, Edwin H. Mounger; Joint Board of Finance, Robert D. Norsworthy; Missions, W. L. C. Hunnicutt; Bible Cause, Robert B. Downer.

R. A. Young, of Vanderbilt University, represented the Nashville Publishing House. Alpheus W. Wilson, General Missionary Secretary; Linus Parker, Editor of *The New Orleans Advocate;* and John H. Brunner, President of Hiwassee College, were present and represented these outstanding institutions of Methodism. W. T. J. Sullivan, D.D. and M.D., father of our own Dr. J. M. Sullivan of Millsaps College, was present and presented a memorial on the Sabbath from the North Mississippi Conference.

Admissions, Ordinations, and Demissions

Isaac Lockhart Peebles from the Madison circuit was *admitted on trial.*

Clarence A. Powell, B. Franklin Jones, Thomas C. Bradford, Benton S. Rayner, William W. Simmons, J. Perry Drake, and Inman W. Cooper were admitted into *full connection.*

Thomas W. Brown, George Bancroft, Lyman Carley, and David Merchange were *readmitted.* D. F. Guice and Few Ball were *discontinued* at their own request.

The following were *ordained deacons: Traveling,* T. C. Bradford, B. S. Rayner, W. W. Simmons, I. W. Cooper, B. F. Jones, and J. P. Drake; *local,* Isaac L. Peebles, Charles J. Phillips, Thomas W. Adams, Newton M. Clark, John C. Williams, and R. French Flowers.

Beverly Caradine and Curtiss D. Cecil were ordained *traveling elders,* and David M. Rush was ordained a *local elder.*

Alexander McBride was *located.*

Thomas Price was *transferred* to the Texas Conference, and no one was received by transfer.

There was one new *superannuate,* J. N. Williams who had come into the Conference by the Methodist Protestant Union and had served Homewood the last two years.

The Woman's Missionary Society

The Woman's Missionary Society, recently authorized and set in motion by the General Conference, had been organized and the interest was growing. Mrs. Juliana Hays of Baltimore, president of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was present at the Conference to make the acquaintance of the pastors and to emphasize the work of the Society. Dr. W. T. J. Sullivan explained the nature of that organization and its mode of operation. On motion of Charles B. Galloway the Conference resolved that it was gratified to have Mrs. Hays present and that pastors would give diligence to the organization of auxiliary societies in their pastoral charges.

On December 22, 1878, during the session of the Annual Conference at Hazlehurst, Mrs. Hays organized the Woman's Foreign

Missionary Society of the Mississippi Conference. Officers elected were as follows:

President	Mrs. Charles B. Galloway, Vicksburg
Vice President	Mrs. W. E. M. Linfield, Hazlehurst
Vice President	Miss Olive Watkins, Jackson
Vice President	Miss Nannie Heard, Brookhaven
Vice President	Mrs. R. S. Woodward, Natchez
Cor. Secretary	Mrs. W. L. C. Hunnicutt, Vicksburg
Rec. Secretary	Miss Annie Linfield, Hazlehurst
Treasurer	Mrs. Annie DeMoss, Vicksburg

Then Mrs. Hays organized an auxiliary at Hazlehurst with 20 members. The societies then were few in number. The first organization was at Brandon, in July 1878, before Conference. Then after Conference from time to time women's societies were organized at Hazlehurst, Crystal Springs, Vicksburg, Raymond, Meridian, Woodville, Jackson, Brookhaven, Port Gibson and Moss Point.

Great Need for Bibles

The Committee on Bible Cause at the 1877 Conference reported a deplorable lack of the Bible in the hands of the people, and that Conference adopted a resolution as follows:

> "The report of the colporteurs in the counties of Jackson, Harrison, Jefferson, Franklin, and Yazoo, reveals a destitution of 28 to 30 per cent of all the families, both white and colored, within the bounds of said counties; while some of the parishes in Louisiana show a destitution of 68 per cent. . . . This destitution and want of the Word of God is certainly telling fearfully upon the morals of those where such destitution is found to exist. . . . We ask of the Conference the adoption of the following resolution:
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> "*Resolved*, That each Preacher in Charge be requested to call the attention of the first Quarterly Conference, after the publication of the Minutes, to the facts embodied in this report, and use his best efforts to organize some systematic plan upon his work for the canvass of the territory within his charge, to ascertain the extent to which the Word of God may be appreciatively supplied; and also to adopt some method of colporteurage for the execution of said plan, and that the Preacher in Charge be required to report the result of such work to the next session of this Conference."

At this 1878 Conference the Committee on Bible Cause reported that the majority of preachers had failed to do this. The Conference adopted the following resolution:

> "Believing that the circulation of God's word is a most effectual method of preaching Jesus, we consider it to be incumbent upon every Methodist minister to be diligent in the discharge of his duty, and not rest content until a copy of God's word is placed in the home of every destitute family in the land.
>
> "*Therefore, Be It Resolved,* We will heartily co-operate with the Southwestern Bible Society, by extending to its agents every aid in our power, and earnestly request contributions to be taken for the Bible cause wherever it is expedient. Also, that every pastor be requested to canvass his work as far as possible and aid heartily in the good work of spreading the Scriptures."

Resolutions

An unusual number of interesting resolutions were adopted by the 1878 Conference, four of which we give here because of their significance and sheer interest even today:

Twenty-five Cents per Member for Foreign Missions

"*Resolved,* That it is our duty as ministers, to continue to preach the within the bounds of the Conference, are directed to make an earnest effort to raise from each member of the churches under their supervision, the minimum amount of twenty-five cents for Foreign Missions."

The Gospel to Colored People

"*Resolved,* That it is our duty as ministers, to continue to preach the Gospel to colored people whenever the opportunity is presented, and we can do so without neglecting our own particular work, and also, as formerly, to aid as far as we can, in their moral, religious, and intellectual development."

Stewards to Be Announced

"*Resolved,* That we recommend that each church, at the first service after the adjournment of this Conference, or as soon thereafter as practicable, announce the steward or stewards of that church or charge, accompanying the announcement by some suitable service."

Small Churches in China

"*Resolved*, That we most heartily appreciate and commend the faithfulness and zeal with which our beloved brother Lambuth has, for a quarter of a century, devoted himself to the self-sacrificing duties of a Missionary in China."

"*Resolved*, That we thoroughly approve Brother Lambuth's plan of building small churches in the villages and less populous cities of China, as centers from which the Gospel may be preached, and from which its influence may radiate; and, that we will most cheerfully render him any assistance in our power in carrying forward this, which we believe to be, the most practical and successful plan of spreading the Kingdom of Christ in the vast empire of darkness."

Sabbath Observance

A Memorial came before the Conference from the North Mississippi Conference, and from the New Hope Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, setting forth the general desecration of the Lord's Day through the State.

"*Resolved*, That we will endeavor to revive the class meeting and love feast, believing them to be the most powerful helpers and promoters of true religion;

"*Resolved*, That we heartily approve all legislation that will tend to the sanctity of the Holy Sabbath, but we as a Conference respectfully decline to memorialize the legislature on the subject."

"*Resolved*, That each one of the ministers of this Conference be requested to preach on the subject of the observance of the Holy Sabbath, at least once during the ensuing year."

Chinese Students

Dr. A. P. Parker wrote from Shanghai concerning Brother Dzau, known also as Charles K. Marshall, because he was named for and was being educated by Dr. C. K. Marshall of Vicksburg. Dzau had come to America in 1860 with Mrs. J. W. Lambuth and another Chinese student, Nee Bau, who assumed the name of John R. Lambuth. The former had returned to China in 1869 but Nee Bau remained in America, for how long we have no record. Dzau was known by the public generally as Sier Whoa.

John B. Higginbotham

John B. Higginbotham, a superannuate, died on January 11, 1879, at the age of 76. Born in Elbert county, Georgia, August 27, 1802, he was brought to Louisiana in 1810 by his parents. In early life he had the influences of Christianity playing upon his soul; he was converted, and for a while manifested the Christian's life, but, influenced by derision of some of his associates, he gave up the effort and the determination to be a Christian. At the age of 18 he was restored to the favor of God and began to take interest in the social meetings of the church in which he was very effective.

He married in 1826, and was the father of 13 children, eight of whom survive him. He had a Christian home, and all his children yielded to its influence.

He had few educational advantages, but feeling strongly the call to preach, he was received on trial at the Conference at Tuscaloosa in November 1830. He was a minister for 48 years, a great personal worker, possibly as good as the church afforded, both in private and public. Thomas Griffin said of him in 1832: "He almost literally swept the earth in search of souls. His library, as well as his knowledge, consisted largely of the Bible, the standards of Methodism, and the church periodicals."

He was a superannuate for 18 years and local for 11 years; and going away at last, he said, "I am almost home." His last utterances were the dying words of John Wesley, "The best of all is God is with us."

Several of his descendants live in Southwest Mississippi. C. Y. Higginbotham of the Mississippi Conference is a great-nephew, being descended from a brother of John B. Higginbotham.

Ireland-Robson

A wedding of more than local interest took place on January 15, 1879, at the home of John Robson in Adams county, when John D. Ireland and Miss Virginia Robson were united in marriage by R. S. Woodward of Natchez and J. Perry Drake of Church

Hill. Mr. and Mrs. Ireland were in the forefront of every good work in the Washington Methodist church until his death in 1919.

William Finn

William Finn, another superannuate, passed to his eternal reward on February 10, 1879, after a ministry of 36 years. He was born in Simpson county, Kentucky, December 13, 1806. He became a local preacher at the age of 26. He was received on trial into the Illinois Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, and completed his course of study in four years. In the first year of his ministry on a circuit 1,000 souls were converted. Not long after the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, he became a member and served in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi to the end of life. He came to the Mississippi Conference in 1859, and lived and died in the service of the Church here, his last charge being Forest. He superannuated in 1871, being very feeble with age and paralysis.

Mr. Finn, in common with most Methodist preachers of that day, maintained a home of his own in Wilkinson county, where his family could have shelter during his long absences from home. One of his daughters, Miss Mollie Finn, married the youthful Methodist minister, Joseph A. McPherson, in 1859, but returned to her father's home following the death of her husband less than two years later.

Philip Hawkins Napier

Philip Hawkins Napier, the third superannuate to die in 1879, departed this life on March 3, at the age of 57. Born in Smith county, Tennessee, a son of John S. and Frances B. Napier, November 4, 1821, his family moved to Mississippi in 1831. He was converted at the Santee Campground about 1836, and afterwards he followed his mother into the Methodist Protestant Church. He married Miss Sarah Dooly, 1838, in Wayne county, and entered the ministry in the Methodist Protestant Church in 1839. For over 30 years he served in that Church in many important appointments, and also as President of the Annual Conference. He was one of the leaders in the union with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, consummated in 1872. Here he served until he was superannuated in 1878, with the exception of four years as local preacher 1874-1877, because of failing health.

Henderson H. Montgomery

The Mississippi Conference lost one of its strongest active men on June 15, 1879. Though pastor at Sharon, he died at Liberty where he had gone during his last illness, and was buried there. For many years he had lived at Sharon, in Madison county, which was a center of culture and learning. The pulpit Bible in the Sharon church has his signature on the fly leaf, being one of the volumes sold by the Book and Tract Society of the Mississippi Conference when he was the agent for that organization. His memory still abides in that community.

This was one of the most outstanding men in the Mississippi Conference; he loved the Church, recognized its authority, and to the best of his ability endeavored to fulfill every trust imposed upon him, whether a circuit, a station, as presiding elder, or as an agent or writer. C. G. Andrews said that many would have testified that Henderson H. Montgomery probably came nearer to doing the whole duty of a Methodist preacher than any other minister in the Conference in the last 30 years, and "It is doubtful if any other man ever wielded so great an influence through central Mississippi, or was the means of the conversion of more sinners, or led more young men into the ministry." He had strong convictions and stressed them vigorously, whatever the opposition, yet he was a brother indeed, and especially did he love his brethren of the ministry. He was a poor man, and did not draw large salaries; yet he never left a charge in debt, and he handled his finances well. He was elected to the General Conference five times in succession.

H. H. Montgomery was born in Williamson county, Tennessee, August 12, 1819. Converted at a camp meeting in his native county at the age of 16, he was licensed to exhort in 1839 and to preach in 1840. Admitted to the Memphis Conference in November 1840, he remained in that Conference six years, and was transferred to the Mississippi Conference in 1846, where he served three districts as presiding elder, four stations, many circuits, and for three years was agent of the Tract and Book Society.

Hervey Copeland

Our Conference lost its fourth superannuate this year in the death of Hervey Copeland on July 24 in British Honduras.

There is no account of the early life and educational advantages of Hervey Copeland. He was admitted on trial into the Memphis Conference in the year 1846, and labored there till 1850, when he located; he moved to Vicksburg soon thereafter, and in 1856 he entered the Mississippi Conference, in elder's orders, where he served until 1868 when he was superannuated because of failing health. Shortly after this he moved to British Honduras; though not an appointed missionary, he labored continuously and successfully until his death, at Orange Grove, July 24, 1879. He was a minister 33 years and was probably about 60 years of age at the time of his death. He died still clinging to his Christian faith, enjoying its triumphs, and conscious of a glorious immortality.

Mr. Copeland's removal to British Honduras was part of a general migration from Mississippi to the Latin American countries after the War Between the States. Several factors entered into the movement. Prominent among them was a feeling that civilization in the South had perished and that there was no longer any hope to be found in its future. Then, too, the pioneer spirit of adventure was still strong in the minds and hearts of those whose parents had come into a primitive wilderness and made their homes. Not least among the causes of this general exodus of Southerners southward was a series of advertisements by real estate agents, setting forth the (alleged) advantages of Central and South America. Many of those who joined in the trek to new lands were disillusioned and returned in a few years. Some of them passed away in the land of their adoption, while descendants of a considerable number make their home still in one of the nations to the south of us.

District Conferences

Five of the District Conferences were scheduled to meet as follows: Seashore, at Pearlington, June 13; Meridian, at Lauderdale, June 27; Brookhaven, at Crystal Springs; Vicksburg, at Port Gibson, July 3; Jackson, July 10.

Bishop Keener presided at the Seashore District Conference. Pearlington had the finest steam sawmill in this section of the South, owned by Poitevent and Favre, with a capacity of 100,000 feet of lumber daily. During the Conference a number were converted. John Poitevent and Dr. E. F. Griffin were elected trustees of the Seashore Campground; John A. Ellis, Inman W. Cooper, and Robert Babington, a layman from Franklinton, were elected a committee on a district high school.

Lay delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: Seashore District: Robert Babington, J. L. Russ, George Wood, and Irvin Roberts; Brookhaven District: J. Harvey Thompson, D. McRee, Jesse Thompson, and R. P. Willing; Woodville District: T. D. Brame, H. C. Newsom, Rev. J. E. Jagers, and G. D. Nettles; Vicksburg District: R. D. Howe, T. L. Mellen, D. F. Ashford, W. S. Sibley.

College Commencements

The Whitworth College sermon was preached by Wm. H. Leith. There were three addresses by Beverly Carradine, Hon. L. Q. C. Lamar, and Wm. H. Watkins. Miss Josie Johnson was valedictorian. Miss Edwina Burnley presided over the alumni meeting, in which Misses Maggie Watkins, Clara E. Barber, and Julia

Raiford had a part. The salutatorian was Miss Maud B. Hawkins. Thirteen graduated with the degree of Master of English Literature, and two, Misses Florence E. Norrill and Mary A. Clark, with the degree of Master of Arts. Dr. Johnson, the president, donated the new brick building called Margaret Hall and his residence to the college, the total value of which was $20,000. The trustees voted to return to him $7,000, of which Major R. W. Millsaps gave $2,000. Margaret Hall was two stories high, size 44x144, with 32 rooms, steam heat, water, room for 132 pupils. Built at a cost of $15,000, it was unimpeded by debt.

The Centenary College Commencement sermon was preached by Robert S. Woodward, pastor of the church at Natchez.

The Port Gibson College Commencement sermon was preached by W. L. C. Hunnicutt; the address was delivered by Charles B. Galloway. Transportation was not very convenient at that day; it was said, "The cars run regularly from the river at Grand Gulf to our town and from Natchez to Martin."

Prof. A. J. Wright, formerly at Port Gibson College was now in charge of Woodville Female Seminary.

Camp Meetings

The officers of the board of trustees of the Seashore Campground were: W. H. Foster, New Orleans, President; Price Williams, Mobile, Vice-president; Phillip Hallaran, New Orleans, Secretary; G. W. W. Goodwyn, New Orleans, Treasurer. These officers and other members met and set the date for the camp meeting to begin July 16. Reduced railroad fares on all railroads were granted; the cost of board and lodging was set: bed, 50 cents; breakfast and supper, 50 cents each; dinner, 75 cents. Financial conditions at the time would hardly justify these prices, and it may be that this was a deterrent factor at that time and all down the line to the present. At this meeting there were 35 preachers present, 50 conversions were reported. The meeting continued only from Wednesday until Tuesday on account of the fear of yellow fever. There were 35 preachers present.

The *new camp meeting at Smith's Mill,* four miles north of State Line, was announced to begin on the first Sunday in August and to continue eight days. It was to be self-sustaining—all were to pay for food and lodging except the preachers and their personal friends. The committee was composed of W. B. Hines, pastor, and a layman, Jesse Byrd, father of Rev. A. S. Byrd. This camp meeting, which was also called Mounger's Creek, was directed by W. B. Hines, J. M. Weems, E. H. Mounger, J. T. Heard, and Samuel Goff, a local supply on the Chickashawhay Mission. There were 18 accessions and about the same number of conversions; the congregation on Sunday was estimated at 600.

Bethel Campground, church and parsonage property, Wilkinson circuit was composed of 80 acres of land, Thos. W. Brown, pastor.

There was a *camp meeting on Buffalo circuit,* W. W. Simmons, pastor, held in August (Woodville District).

A *camp meeting at Beech Springs,* Neshoba county, began on the fourth Sunday in August.

Trenton circuit camp meeting was announced to begin on the first Sunday in September.

The *Crystal Springs* camp meeting, held on schedule, witnessed the conversion of 25 and the reception of 12 members; the attendance on Sunday was given as 1,500. Those who preached at least one time were: W. E. M. Linfield, T. S. West, H. F. Johnson, W. B. Lewis, Beverly Carradine, Bascom T. Pearson, Charles B. Galloway, Newton B. Young, John D. Hays, Thomas B. Holloman, and Parmenus Howard.

China Grove camp meeting was planned for 1878, but the campground was not finished on account of yellow fever. The camp meeting was held September 24-30, 1879, the first one to be held at that campground so far as can be ascertained. The preachers were P. Howard, B. S. Rayner, J. W. Sandell, M. C. Callaway, G. W.

Brown, and Warren W. Cammack, a local preacher coming up for admission on trial at the approaching Conference.

A camp meeting was held at Buntyn's Spring in Lauderdale county.

Other camp meetings were scheduled: Salem, October 2; Lake, September 26; New Hope, DeKalb circuit, September 25.

The *Providence* camp meeting was held at the appointed time; there were 56 conversions and 32 additions to the church.

The camp meeting at *Holland's* campground, Jasper county, was also held but there is no report of results.

The *Salem* camp meeting in Jackson county was held October 2-6. The preachers were John A. Ellis, P.E., R. B. Downer, G. F. Thompson, Samuel Goff, J. S. Calhoun, Irvin Roberts, Lyman R. Roberts, and a Rev. Mr. Luther. The pastor says, "Salem is the oldest campground in this country."

Other Revivals Reported

Jackson, Louisiana, reported a revival in which there were 18 conversions and three young men licensed to preach.

Ocean Springs reported a revival conducted by I. W. Cooper, pastor, and George F. Thompson, pastor at Moss Point.

At Wesson a revival was conducted by W. B. Lewis, P. Howard, and N. B. Young; there were 12 baptisms and 16 received into the church.

A revival at Fairmount, Westville circuit, M. C. Collins, supply pastor, resulted in 22 conversions and 25 accessions to the church.

A revival was held at the newly-organized Poplar Springs church in Marion county, by Green W. Brown, Wm. J. Ball, and Mager C. Callaway.

A Memento of Bishop McKendree

John A. Ellis wrote the following interesting story for the *Advocate:*

"In Marion county, Mississippi, 15 miles south of Columbia, and one mile east of Pearl River, there lived, 60 years ago, a local preacher, James Rawles. Bishop McKendree was his guest. In the wall, to the left of the door entering, and six feet from the floor, the Bishop drove a nail to hang his hat on. In course of time the old house was substituted by a new residence, erected by James McKendree Rawles, a nephew of the aforesaid local preacher. The nail was drawn from its place in the old building and driven in the corresponding place in the new. On that nail, to this day, the successors of McKendree hang their hats while they themselves enjoy the old time hospitality of the Rawles family."

Churches Organized and Built

A church was organized at *Dennisville*, Jefferson county; it is now the *Mizpeh* church on the Lorman charge.

Hopewell, on the Cleveland circuit in the Meridian District, was organized in 1879; also a Sunday School.

Money was subscribed to build a new church at *DeSoto*, and the *Advocate* reported that the church was finished in October, and was clear of debt. J. W. Adkisson, president of East Mississippi College, Meridian, preached the dedicatory sermon on the first Sunday in November.

Pearlington was raising money to build the new church referred to in the last chapter.

The new church at *Wesson* was dedicated on Sunday, October 8. W. E. M. Linfield conducted the service, assisted by J. T. Heard, a former pastor, H. F. Johnson, of Whitworth College, and the pastor, W. B. Lewis.

West Pascagoula circuit had five new churches built. All finances were up to date by the middle of the year. J. S. Calhoun was pastor.

Three hundred dollars was subscribed for a new church at *Lauderdale*.

A new church was built at *Linwood*.

Painters finished painting *Ocean Springs* church.

Biloxi building was now improved.

Handsboro church moved to a more central location.

New Parsonages

China Grove church reported that a parsonage had been built.

A new parsonage was built at Bahala Chapel, near old Tyrus.

A new parsonage was erected at Mount Carmel on the Buffalo circuit, in Wilkinson county.

At Lauderdale a new parsonage was bought at a cost of $550.00.

State Sunday School Convention

Sometime during 1879 a State Sunday School Convention was organized, as is evidenced by a paragraph of the report of the Sunday School Committee at the 1879 Conference. We give this paragraph and also a resolution from the report:

> "We mention with pleasure the organization of a State Sunday School Convention, in Mississippi, over which, during the present year, a member of this Conference has been called to preside, which, we believe, has greatly quickened the zeal and enlarged the intelligent conceptions and labors of Sunday School workers. In view of the existence of this Convention and the number of county conventions and institutes, auxiliary thereto, established, we deem it unadvisable at present to organize a Sunday School Conference. . . .
>
> "*Resolved, 3d,* That the greater prominence be given to the subject of Sunday Schools in our District Conferences, and when practicable, in connection therewith, that District Sunday School Institutes be organized."

Items of Interest

Ocean Springs at that time, as it is in this day, was a pleasant place to live. The presiding elder of the Seashore District lived there this year, and Bishop Keener honored it for more than 40 years by having a summer home there.

Henry F. Lewis and James E. Jagers offered to be two of a hundred to give ten dollars each towards the publication of the History of Methodism written by John G. Jones; it was very difficult to get the history on and off the press. Mr. Jones had labored hard and long to produce it, and largely at his own expense.

Judge Edward McGehee, of Woodville, a noted churchman and philanthropist, now past 90 years of age, was still able to ride about his farm.

A Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was organized at Meridian, Central church, early in 1879.

At Shubuta a Wesleyan Society was organized in February, 1879. This was the beginning of the woman's organization at that important church which has been effective and continuous through seven generations or more.

There were five circuits along the Gulf Coast this year: Moss Point, East Pascagoula, West Pascagoula, Seashore, and Pearlington.

Circuits were large during these days, and the preachers were kept busy trying to minister to the sparsely settled people and homes, and their saddlebags were both their libraries and wardrobes.

Enon circuit was 80 miles long, with 9 churches and 11 appointments. Lyman Carley was the pastor at this time, and in his report to the *Advocate* he mentioned the absence of religious literature, something that this faithful pastor was ever interested in.

East Pascagoula circuit had 9 appointments and 10 Sunday Schools, and the distance around the circuit was 135 miles; R. F. Flowers was pastor.

Inman W. Cooper, pastor of Seashore circuit, reported in June that Bishop Keener preached at Ocean Springs the previous Sunday; that the Seashore Campground was a beautiful place; and that there were 18 additions to the church at Handsboro. He also reported that B. J. Barrier, of Philadelphia, Mississippi, died on the campground the day the report was made.

Westville circuit also was large, being 130 miles around, and had 8 appointments. There were many others, large and laborious to serve in those days of scant resources, muddy roads, and swollen streams.

There was a disastrous fire at Waynesboro on April 21, 1879, which consumed the courthouse. Ransom J. Jones was presiding elder and Wm. B. Hines was pastor of the Waynesboro church. The pastor's salary was $600; the presiding elder's salary, $1,055; and the Waynesboro membership, 212.

Mrs. Jefferson Hamilton, grandmother of Dr. A. P. Hamilton of Millsaps College, was the first President of the recently organized Alabama Conference Woman's Missionary Society.

Holmesville in Pike county had long been an outstanding place. Once it was the county seat, contained a noble citizenship, and was noted for continuous effort and progress of the church. In 1879 Henry P. Lewis was pastor; he had sold sixty dollars' worth of books, baptized 14 infants and three adults, and provided the circuit with five new church registers. His father, Quinnea Lewis, was 85 years old on May 9, 1879, and had been for 54 years an official of the Methodist Church.

No deaths had been registered at Crystal Springs for fifteen months; this thriving little city was busy growing strawberries, peas, beans, peaches and apples for the market.

A letter from J. W. Lambuth, our missionary to China, says that Miss Dora Rankin was in China and that C. F. Reid, who had made a great missionary, was coming. Dr. Lambuth himself was hoping to visit America next year.

Deaths Among the Laymen

The following died of pneumonia early in 1879 at Fayette: Miss Sarah Stokes, January 9; Mrs. P. M. Adair, March 1; John W. Scott, president of the Board of Stewards and brother to Mrs. Adair, April 3.

Mrs. Julia A. Buford, daughter of John M. and Elizabeth Folkes of Spring Hill church near Fayette, died at Bastrop, Louisiana, on March 13. Her first husband was John A. Cotton of the Mississippi Conference.

Mrs. Nettie Carter Edgar, second wife of Rev. E. F. Edgar of the Mississippi Conference, died on March 26.

Mrs. Retencie Denson Jordon, wife of Asbury Jordon, died at Ellisville on April 8 at the age of 44. She was the mother of the older group of Jordons in the Ellisville church; her oldest son, Amos, died in 1945.

Capt. J. C. Downer died at Ocean Springs on April 28.

R. D. Hardy, a layman, died in Jackson.

Mrs. Maggie R. Archer, wife of William H. Archer and daughter of Rev. O. L. Nash, died at Clinton, Mississippi, April 28.

Thomas J. Fornea of Marion county died on May 19. He had married Miss A. M. M. Tate, in 1854 and joined the church many years before his death, fell into a backslidden state, but was gloriously reclaimed during his last illness.

Rev. John Knox Ward died in Jackson county on June 9, aged 62.

Dr. George Peets, born at Fort Ann, New York, died at the home of his son-in-law, Polk Ferguson, in Beauregard on June 26 at the age of 73. He graduated in December 1829, at Castletonia, (Vermont) Medical College. Coming to Warren county in 1827, and to Copiah county in 1839, he married Sarah Ann Traylor in 1843. He was converted at a revival held at Pleasant Valley in 1849 by Samuel L. L. Scott.

Stevan W. Osborn died on July 7. He had been a member of Liberty church, now Edwards, since its organization in 1828.

R. W. Rayne, for whom Rayne Memorial church in New Orleans was named, died at his summer home in Ocean Springs, also on July 7. He was a native of England, but lived in New Orleans 40 years. He was a local elder in the Methodist Church.

Rev. J. J. Clark, formerly a member of this Conference, died at Brookhaven on July 11.

Mrs. Mary Wilson, wife of Capt. John H. Wilson, died during the year. She had united with the church at Old Crystal Springs under the ministry of Thomas Owens in 1826.

Rev. James Applewhite, who organized the first church in Hancock county about the year 1830, died this year. Theophilus Moody, later a member of the Alabama Conference, was a charter member of this church.

Mrs. Charlotte Hammock, a member of White Plains church, Union circuit, Brandon District, died on August 10, aged 56. A native of Georgia, she moved to Alabama in 1841, joined the church in 1845, and moved to Mississippi in 1859.

John Calvin Ross was born near Cow Creek church in Kemper county, November 21, 1849, and died at his home in Sucharnochee, Kemper county, August 28, 1879. He was upright and honorable in all his dealings.

Gadi Moody died in Wayne county on September 27, aged 73. He was converted and joined the church when 17, was licensed to exhort and then to preach. He retained only his license to exhort for some years; he was a good man and useful. His wife, *Elizabeth Moody,* was born and died at her residence on January 6, 1880.

Mrs. T. J. Randolph, died in Clinton, Mississippi, on November 10, aged 71. A native of Virginia, she married in 1825, moved to Mississippi in 1829, and joined the church in Vicksburg in 1836. She was the first member of the Clinton Woman's Missionary Society.

Matthew Fenelle Sims, born at Crawford, Mississippi, died at Lauderdale on November 19, only 30 years old. He married Miss S. A. Tart, December 1870, and lived happily with her till his death. Major Sims professed religion and joined the church when 17, under the ministry of R. J. Jones, Jr., and was renewed in his allegiance to his Savior before his death.

Miss Sallie McLaurin was born in Covington county, May 23, 1847, and joined the church in Brandon on May 23, 1876, under the ministry of R. S. Woodward. Happily converted, she died in peace.

John Wesley Alford, son of Seaborn J. and Mary C. Alford, was born in Pike county on June 25, 1836, and died on November 27, 1879, at his home in Denton county, Texas. Trained up in the church, he united early in life and lived a consistent Christian. He had been in Texas about two years.

William Conerly, born in North Carolina on August 1, 1810, came to Mississippi and settled in Marion county, and lived there for several years. He joined the church at Waterhole about 1826, and was converted about that time at a camp meeting about six miles above Holmesville at Gatlin's Campground, in Pike county. He identified himself with the people of God, and was faithful to the end.

J. A. R. Kelley, born in Lauderdale county, died in Washington county December 7, aged 24. He was a young man of excellent character, a good worker, and efficient steward.

Daniel Sandell, a member of Felder's church for 65 years, died at his residence near Magnolia on December 13, aged 87. He was the son of Henry Sandell and Catherine Nobles who moved to Mississippi and settled near Magnolia. He was the father of John Wesley Sandell of the Mississippi Conference. He joined the church in South Carolina in 1812 before moving to Mississippi in 1814.

CHAPTER XI

1880

Conference at Meridian

The Annual Conference met at Meridian December 17-22, 1879. Bishop Hubbard Hinde Kavanaugh called the Conference to order and led the devotional services by reading a part of Acts 20, announcing hymn 272, "And are we yet alive," and leading in prayer. He presided over the Mississippi Conference first at Vicksburg in 1855, and was now nearly 78 years old.

The roll was called by J. A. B. Jones, assistant secretary of the last Conference; and 91 preachers were present during the Conference and 19 lay delegates. H. M. DuBose, at the close of his first year in the Conference, replaced that faithful layman, J. T. Cameron, as recording secretary; the other secretaries were elected as before. R. J. Jones was host presiding elder and E. H. Mounger was host pastor.

Admissions, Ordinations, etc.

Six were *admitted on trial:* Martin Anding Bell from the Mt. Olivet circuit; Mager C. Calloway, from the Westville circuit; W. Warren Cammack, from the Beauregard circuit; Edward F. Edgar, from the Tranquil circuit; Joseph J. Lovell, from the Shubuta circuit; Joseph T. Nicholson, from the DeKalb circuit.

Two were *readmitted:* H. J. Harris and L. P. Meador.

Three were *received by transfer:* John W. Chambers, in the first year, and James T. Graham, in the third year, from the Louisiana Conference; and Thomas Price, from the Texas Conference.

Transferred to other Conferences: L. R. Featherstun and F. M.

Featherstun, to the Pacific Conference; H. J. Harris to North Texas; and J. B. K. Smith, to South Georgia.

Two were *ordained travelling deacons:* John Stewart Calhoun and H. Mellard DuBose; and five were *ordained local deacons:* John A. Gilbert, Thos. H. Rivers, Irvin Roberts, William A. Powell, and J. T. Robinson.

Four travelling preachers were *ordained elders:* Wm. P. Andrews, W. W. Hopper, Geo. M. Gilmore, and W. D. Dominick.

There were but nine *superannuates:* J. G. Jones, William Spillman, Levi Pearce, E. R. Strickland, D. W. Dillehay, J. N. Williams, J. A. Vance, Thomas Price, Andrew Day. Of these, J. A. Vance and Thomas Price were superannuates for the first time.

Two were *supernumerary:* Ephraim A. Flowers and George T. Vickers.

Conference Comments

Thomas W. Brown, of Woodville, wrote of the recent Conference in the *Advocate.* Bishop Kavanaugh in the chair was well preserved and genial, ready for work. He preached on Wednesday night on, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel," and another wonderful sermon on Sunday morning, entrancing the multitude as he rose from point to point to the climax.

Concerning the return trip, he wrote: "A goodly number of passengers on the way home, among whom is President Jeff Davis, enroute to his home on the Seashore . . . a little thin and weak from a recent illness, but so genial, cheerful, high-toned and Christian in sentiment, and so well stored with all knowledge, that to have met and conversed with him is a delight to be remembered."

The Conference adjourned at nearly midnight on Monday.

Drury Bell

Drury Bell, a useful local preacher, died on January 27 at the age of 97. Born in North Carolina, he lost his mother when quite young, and had no educational advantages. He united with the church when 14, being powerfully converted. He moved to East Feliciana parish, Louisiana. He served through the war of 1812, never faltering in his religion. He married a widow, a Mrs. Crawford, soon after the war, and lived with her nearly 60 years. They lived on Pearl River in Copiah county.

Henry T. Jones

Henry T. Jones, an uncle of the writer, who remembers him well, passed to his heavenly reward on February 4, 1880. Formerly a member of the Mississippi Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, he greatly influenced Methodism wherever he went. He was born in Spartanburg District, South Carolina, December 31, 1811. His early educational advantages, like that of many preachers of that day, were limited, but by study of the Bible and standard works on theology, he became a very strong preacher and advocate of the doctrines of Methodism, a tower for righteousness, and a mighty power against sin in high places or low.

He joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in early boyhood, was licensed to preach and was received into the Georgia Conference, and was appointed to Carnsville circuit in the district presided over in successive years by J. W. Park, J. W. Glenn, and Samuel Anthony. These were his model presiding elders, and to them he referred in his last moments. On account of the health of his wife he was transferred to the Alabama Conference and later to the Florida Conference and appointed to Thomasville. At Thomasville he raised, by subscription, a large sum to establish a college at that place.

In 1852 he settled in Mississippi, and in 1853 he organized the first Congregational Methodist church in Mississippi, and died a member of that Church. He was the father of L. J. Jones of the Mississippi Conference. In 1853 he was a delegate to the Convention that formed the *Discipline* of the Congregational Methodist Church, and he was a leader in that Church till his death in Paulding, Mississippi. Consecrated in life, in death he said, "I am ready, and soon I will be with the loved ones who have gone before."

The writer was a very sick little boy when he passed away and was not informed of the death of his uncle till later, for fear of the effect on his own life.

Marriage of Preachers

W. D. Dominick married Miss Sue Evans, daughter of Capt. J. C. Evans of Camden, December 30, 1879, the ceremony being performed by R. D. Norsworthy.

James L. Forsyth, pastor at Crystal Springs, and Miss Laura Steele, of Copiah county, were married March 17, 1880, by Will H. Leith at the residence of the bride's uncle, Col. J. Catchings.

The Mississippi Legislature

A Methodist member of the Mississippi Legislature, writing to the *Advocate*, says: "We have a remarkably temperate membership, the large majority being church members." One-third or more of the members were Methodists.

Andrew Day

Andrew Day, who had superannuated at the recent Annual Conference, died at the residence of his son in Lexington on May 8, 1880, having said, "The way to my heavenly home is bright and fair."

Born in Gibson county, Indiana, July 22, 1816, when about grown he came to Madisonville, Madison county, Mississippi, found employment, and boarded with a Methodist family named Hubert. He soon was an earnest seeker after salvation, and in 1836 he found assurance of his acceptance when he was praying alone. He felt the call to preach, although his education was very limited. Fully conscious of his salvation, he was first licensed to exhort and then to preach, and in 1838 he was admitted on trial into the Mississippi Conference, having passed through a course of reading as suggested by his presiding elder. By hard struggle he completed the course of study, and served many of the largest circuits.

His connection with the Conference remained unbroken for 42 years; he gave himself for the salvation of others and was remarkably successful, being known as a man of much prayer. He was twice married, and left a widow and two sons and two daughters. One of the sons was a Methodist preacher, and that afforded him much pleasure and consolation. He was buried at Crystal Springs.

Woman's Missionary Society

A letter from Miss Annie E. Linfield, corresponding secretary, appeared in the *Advocate* about the Woman's Missionary Society in the Mississippi Conference, which was organized at the 1878 Annual Conference. Officers this year were:

President	Mrs. W. L. Nugent, Jackson
Vice-Presidents	Mrs. W. E. M. Linfield, Hazlehurst Mrs. R. S. Woodward, Natchez Miss Olive Watkins, Jackson Miss Minnie Heard, Enterprise
Recording Secretary	Mrs. C. B. Galloway, Vicksburg
Corresponding Secretary	Mrs. Annie E. Linfield, Hazlehurst
Treasurer	Mrs. Annie DeMoss, Vicksburg

Sunday School Work

At the last session of the Conference Chas. B. Galloway was appointed Corresponding Sunday School Secretary, and he stressed the Sunday School work in the churches, asking that the presiding elders give a day in each District Conference to the consideration of this interest.

District Conferences

The Woodville District Conference was the first of which we have an account. The Conference met at Jackson, Louisiana, May 27-29, with 50 members present and the presiding elder, J. A. Godfrey, in the chair. A District Sunday School Institute was held on

Saturday of the session. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were Hon. H. C. Newsom, Rev. Harrison Bradford, W. F. Harden, and W. P. Rayford.

The Brandon District Conference met on July 1 at Brandon with about 40 ministers and lay delegates present, and James M. Gann, presiding elder, in the chair. Beverly Carradine was the host pastor, and W. M. Thornton was elected Secretary. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: W. M. Thornton, L. McLaurin, R. A. Tibbs, and Rev. Irvin Miller.

The Brookhaven District Conference met at Wesson, July 1, the presiding elder, W. E. M. Linfield, being president. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: F. D. Winbush, D. F. Guice, David McRee, and Jesse Thompson, Sr.

The Jackson District Conference met at Jackson or Edwards July 15-16, with the presiding elder, W. L. C. Hunnicutt, in the chair. It was a very pleasant conference. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: W. L. Nugent, Thos. A. Phillips, D. Bunch, and Robert H. Smith.

Commencements—Our Schools

The commencement of Vanderbilt University, our leading educational institution, began June 5, and on graduation day degrees were conferred on the following graduates from Mississippi, among others: W. R. Sims, W. C. Brandon, of the Biblical Department; J. L. Dantzler, Bachelor of Philosophy; W. Q. Moore, Master of Arts, Bachelor of Law.

East Mississippi Female College, in Meridian, was crowded to overflowing, applicants as boarding students being turned away. John A. Ellis had been appointed financial agent by the Mississippi Conference. The need was for more buildings, and the agent reported that D. B. Gullet, proprietor of the Gullet Gin Factory, donated $100.00 without solicitation for a building, and Major R. W. Millsaps, who was doing handsome things for Whitworth College, gave $50.00 unsolicited.

Bishop Keener reported very successful commencement exercises at Centenary College: W. H. Watkins preached the sermon, in place of C. K. Marshall; and Joel T. Davis delivered the address, in place of Senator R. L. Gibson. Alexander F. Watkins won the prize for oratory.

Bishop Kavanaugh included Whitworth College commencement in his plans, where he doubtless preached the sermon on June 27, and held the District Conference at Brookhaven, July 1-4. Dr. John Mathews delivered the annual address at the present successful ending of the session.

The commencement of Port Gibson Academy began June 23. Addresses were made by H. M. DuBose and T. B. Holloman and three received the degree of Master of English Literature, and one received the degree of Master of Arts. John A. B. Jones was re-elected president of the school, and Geo. W. Humphreys president of the board of trustees. The address by H. M. DuBose to the Alumnae Society was on "Higher Education of Women"; the address by T. B. Holloman was on "Great Problems of Life."

The Canton Female Academy, under the superintendency of Professor W. H. Magruder, was in good condition and worthy of support.

Central Mexican Mission

Bishop John C. Keener, who had established the Central Mexican Mission, wrote from his home in Ocean Springs, June 7, 1880, and said in closing:

> "If the Methodist Church is not missionary, in its every fibre, it is nothing. This is its original crystallization. But for this impulse of the Holy Spirit it would never have had existence. And, when it comes to be false to the very law of its existence, it deserves to pass away, and doubtless will."

The Advocate—*The Mississippi Methodist*

The New Orleans *Christian Advocate* came out in a new dress. T. S. West, presiding elder of the Seashore District, commended it for this forward step, and spoke highly of the editor and publisher. He reported that good work was being done in the district.

Rev. J. T. Graham became editor of *The Mississippi Methodist* published by Dement and Graham, Meridian. This paper seems not to have survived very long, having been established, it seems, during the year 1880; other editors were R. J. Jones, 1881, and William Spillman, 1882.

Camp Meetings

The Seashore camp meeting was held earlier this year, beginning on June 16. Ministers were invited to come free; others paid at the rate of $2.25 per day for board and lodging. This was expensive lodging and board in 1880.

The meeting was very successful; there were 13 ministers present from Alabama and 22 from Mississippi. There were four sermons a day, with experience meetings after the morning services, and special prayer meetings in the afternoons. There were 90 conversions and 40 or 50 additions to the church. Dr. J. B. Walker took a collection for the debt on the property and raised $2,000 in cash and subscriptions.

At the Providence camp meeting in July, there were 50 conversions. Dr. John Mathews, of New Orleans, was there, and, as always, he was a popular and successful leader. The writer, as a student in Vanderbilt, had the pleasure of hearing him when he was pastor of McKendree Church, Nashville. Dr. Mathews wrote of the Providence meeting:

> "In July, I found myself at Providence campground, Copiah county, Missisipi. Bishop McTyeire had long ago urged me to go out of the city and contribute to the extension of Christ's Kingdom. More than that, I longed to get to a regular old-time camp-meeting. Here I found it. The people are intelligent and spiritual, and gather here year by year for edification and development. I preached four times and exhorted time and again. Some of the ministers gave us rare treats in Gospel food. Dr. Wheat was there, considered by some as the best preacher in our denomination. His sermon fed and filled us. He was refined through suffering. At this meeting, during

a children's service which I led, a lad was converted all over. The power of God seemed to rest upon him. As God spoke to Samuel, so did He speak to this boy. At a subsequent meeting, held to hear experiences, he arose with a radiant face and, with tears on his cheeks, gave us one of the most touching talks of the meeting; telling in simple terms that, 'Sitting on the backmost seat, God moved me to give Him my heart, and I was saved.' He turned saying, 'You, on the backmost seat, can be saved.'"

In preparation for the Smith's Mill camp meeting which began on July 15 Wm. B. Hines, of Waynesboro, issued invitations to come and build tents on ground which would be furnished free.

The Holland's camp meeting on the Paulding circuit began on Tuesday morning, August 27, and on the following Monday night it was suspended because of rain. There had been 17 conversions. The preachers assisting were E. H. Mounger, J. T. Heard, J. J. Smylie, J. C. Brogan, G. M. Gilmore, and R. J. Jones, presiding elder. The pastor was D. G. W. Ellis.

The Hennington or Crystal Springs Camp Meeting Association officers explained that it had not been organized and could not organize under the charter granted by the Legislature, because of some cumbersome clauses in the charter. Three members of the association, Capt. Archie Steele, brother of Elijah Steele, Mrs. Martha Hennington, widow of Isaac Hennington, and John P. Enochs, had died since the last meeting.

Though there had been a fire at the campground, the camp meeting was held August 12-16. There were 60 tents occupied and an attendance of 1,200 to 1,500. The preachers present were Linus Parker, Ransom J. Jones, Jr., Beverly Carradine, J. B. Walker, John D. Hays, Charles B. Galloway, J. L. Cooper (a Cumberland Presbyterian and founder of Cooper Institute at Daleville), J. J. Wheat, W. H. Leith, J. T. Heard, G. F. Thompson, Benjamin Jones, W. B. Lewis, W. W. Hurst, A. B. Nicholson, Geo. H. Day, D. C. Langford, A. M. Barrington, Bascomb T. Pearson, Ira B. Robertson, E. R. Strickland, Parmenas Howard, W. C. Black, J. W. Sandell, N. B. Young, and Pinckney A. Johnston; and also the following local preachers: J. W. McNeil, Paul W. Harper, E. G. Cook, L. Barnes, A. F. Watkins, W. M. Pierce, and W. W. Funchess. There were 40 conversions.

W. C. Black delivered the annual sermon, presumably to the Woman's Missionary Society, on Monday morning, his subject being "The Philosophy of Methodism"; and there were also addresses by Drs. Linfield, Walker, and C. B. Galloway.

The China Grove camp meeting, held August 27-September 1, was very successful. The pastor, H. P. Lewis, reported the greatest display of the power of the Holy Ghost he had ever seen. There were 75 or 80 conversions and 30 accessions. Ministers present were: T. S. West, R. B. Downer, G. W. Brown, B. S. Rayner, M. C. Callaway, P. Howard, W. W. Hopper, J. W. Sandell, J. T. Nicholson, and W. B. Lewis. Yellow fever prevented this camp meeting in 1878; there were six tents in 1879; while this year there were 21 tents, with the rates for board and lodging set at $1.35 a day.

The camp meeting at Trenton was held September 4-7, and resulted in 14 being added to the Church.

A camp meeting was held at Lake also, and the Saint Matthews camp meeting was conducted near Hickory by Mssrs. Gann, Carradine, Mounger, Stewart, Moore, Walden, and Clark.

The Union Campground on the Shady Grove Mission in Clarke county, with J. H. Holland as pastor, witnessed a good camp meeting in October, in which there were 16 conversions and 16 accessions. R. J. Jones, presiding elder, preached six excellent sermons. J. C. Brogan of the Wayne charge, J. J. Lovett of the Spring Hill charge, and four local preachers, among whom was H. DuBose, preached also. A total of 90 were received into the church on the Shady Grove Mission this year.

Camp meetings were held at New Hope, DeKalb circuit, in October; and at Beech Springs in Neshoba county in late September.

The Salem camp meeting, October 14-19, witnessed 12 conversions and four accessions, while the New Prospect camp meeting, October 21-25, witnessed 25 conversions and 10 accessions. In the *Advocate*, J. M. Weems told of his visit to the Salem and New Prospect camp meetings, in company with I. W. Cooper:

> "On the fourteenth, in company with Brother Cooper, we had a pleasant drive to Salem Campground, where we took part in the services which continued to the morning of the eighteenth. . . . I am told that the first campmeeting held here was in 1826 and that to date they have held a meeting every year except two. . . . The pastor, Rev. C. F. Gillespie, reported every assessment paid in full, thirty-five accessions to the church and over forty infants baptized. The visible results of this meeting were the church greatly revived, twelve conversions, and three accessions to the church.
>
> "On the eighteenth we returned home and took our rest until the twenty-first, when we left for a campmeeting on West Pascagoula Mission. This time we did not drive, but took shipping in a water craft, known in these parts as a pirogue, and were propelled by the strong arms of Uncle Humphries, who informed us that he was a Baptist preacher, but had great respect for his Methodist brethren. We did not try to shake his faith in *much water*, but exhorted him to show his faith, in the water, by his works, which he did right manfully; for in about four hours he pulled us twenty-one miles, and in time to enjoy an excellent dinner with the family of Brother Martin. This brother is an Englishman and very proud of his nativity, but peculiarly remarked that "every sweet has its bitter," and that he experienced the bitter of being an Englishman in the attempt to hear his children recite; for when he gave out the words *at* and *ouse* and *art*, they would stoutly maintain that there were no such words in their lesson.
>
> "Here we were met by the pastor, Rev. J. S. Calhoun, who turned his excellent horse and buggy over to us, mounted a trim little mule and led us through a deep pine forest, past a living Mormon Church and great coal kilns that looked like houses covered with earth and on fire, to his own pleasant home, where we took tea, and thence to the camp ground where Bro. Cooper preached to the waiting people. Here again we find historic reminiscences upon which we would like to dwell, but the length of this letter forbids the attempt. Suffice it to say we are now standing in the tracks of Richmond Nolley, the apostle of Methodism in the country, and there are those before us who heard from the lips of this man who gave his life for the church, the 'old, old story' that shall not cease to echo among these pine hills till Christ shall come to gather 'the loved ones home'.
>
> "This is a new camp ground, the first year of its existence, with a large pavillion, five large tents, and the promise of as many more next year. The

meeting continued to the twenty-fifth, and there were twenty-five conversions, ten accessions, five adults, and eight infants baptized. The pastor reports every assessment paid in full, about forty accessions and more than that number of infants baptized."

The New Prospect Campground was established near Vancleave in October 1880, and it has had a large influence for Christ and the Methodist Church since that time. J. H. Havens, long an influential local preacher, was the last surviving member of the group that organized the campground. There was also a church called New Prospect on the campground, to which he moved his membership form the Red Hill church, where he preached his first sermon, soon after becoming a preacher. His conversion took place at Mount Pleasant church under the ministry of Rev. Irvin Roberts, his brother-in-law.

Other Revivals and Reports to the Advocate

At Port Gibson, H. R. Singleton, the pastor, was assisted in a meeting for two weeks by C. B. Galloway, H. M. DuBose, J. G. Jones, J. A. B. Jones.

The Leaf River circuit comprised parts of three counties, Scott, Jasper, Smith, and contained nine appointments. R. A. Sibley, pastor, wrote from Trenton especially commending Price's Chapel which was near Montrose in Jasper county. He stated that its Sunday School "did not go into winter quarters," and that its missionary society was in good working order. This is the church which was the spiritual home of M. L. Burton, J. T. Abney, W. L. Blackwell, and J. L. Neill, each of whom was later a member of the Mississippi Conference over a long period of years and active in its work.

At Bethesda near Gallman, W. R. Sims held a meeting which resulted in 22 accessions.

At Harrisville on the Cato circuit, Brandon District, J. H. Evans held a meeting resulting in 10 conversions and six additions to the church.

The Brandywine circuit, Brookhaven District, was served by A. M. Barrington. In the revivals of this year at Rehoboth there were 40 conversions and 24 accessions; at Brandywine 21 conversions and 30 accessions; at Sarepta three conversions and seven accessions.

From Newton, George Bancroft, pastor, reported a fine meeting at Pleasant Hill church with 21 accessions, including a man 94 years of age. In the meeting at Newton there were 15 accessions. Among those assisting in the meetings were J. D. Hays, A. B. Stewart, J. W. Adkisson, N. M. Clark, Irvin Miller, J. W. Graham, R. W. Burton, father of M. L. Burton, and the old veteran, David W. Dillehay.

At Polkville Claiborne McDonald of Trenton held a seven-day meeting and received 22 members; and at Pine Grove, eight members.

At Soule, on the Camden and Soule charge, W. D. Dominick was assisted by Dr. T. M. Ward and C. D. Cecil, and 14 members were received.

At Fayette a good meeting was held with 13 accessions; D. P. Bradford, pastor, had as his associate pastor H. M. DuBose. In a letter the pastor says, "Brother H. M. DuBose has served the circuit with us this year. He is a faithful, zealous preacher and has many warm friends on this work."

At Manassas, 10 miles east of Quitman, on the Shady Grove mission, the pastor, J. H. Holland, was assisted by S. Gunn, J. A. Gilbert, P. C. Wimbish, and H. DuBose; there were 17 accessions. He was an excellent man, a great Christian, and a good singer.

The Cayuga circuit, C. A. Powell, pastor, witnessed four protracted meetings with 40 adults and 25 children received into the church.

The Ellisville mission was increased in membership by the addition of 41 during the year, under the leadership of T. J. Miller, supply pastor, and T. S. West, presiding elder of the Seashore District.

At Scranton, afterwards Pascagoula, T. S. West assisted in a meeting, resulting in 13 accessions.

The Walnut Grove circuit, which included Carthage, was encouraging to the pastor, J. W. Ellison.

Notes of Interest

Joseph Nicholson, pastor of Whittington circuit in the Seashore District (which circuit later became Coalville), was forced to leave his work on March 29 to recuperate his health.

The Philadelphia circuit embraced the territory from Philadelphia and vicinity to Chunky Station. It seems that T. Y. Armstrong, pastor, lived at the latter place. He reported that Hester's Chapel had a Sunday school of 75 members while the Philadelphia Sunday School had 48.

A letter from Geo. F. Thompson told of his conversion at Asbury Chapel, Memphis, in 1848, under the ministry of Rev. Lorenzo Dow Mullins who had recently died.

On the Chickasahay mission the quarterly conference occasion embraced July 31-August 1. The Conference met at Washington, now Neely, on Saturday morning. R. J. Jones, Jr., the presiding elder, preached and the quarterly conference followed; the pastor, W. W. Cammack, preached at 3:00 P.M. Saturday. The Sunday School met at 10:00 o'clock Sunday morning, and at 11:00 the presiding elder preached on the subject of Baptism, preceding which he baptized ten infants, and after the sermon he received eight persons into the church. Quarterly conferences were great occasions in that day.

Reuben W. Burton of Montrose, local preacher and colporteur, thoroughly canvassed Jasper county for the Southeastern Bible Society. He traveled 1,160 miles, visited 2,028 families, and sold and donated 3,069 volumes. According to his son, M. L. Burton, during the War Between the States his father went down to the coast and extracted sufficient salt from the Gulf to buy a plantation in Jasper county.

R. D. Norsworthy of Canton, pastor in the third year, wrote of the flourishing Sunday School, the newly organized Woman's Missionary Society of 20 members, and also the encouraging class meeting.

G. F. Thompson, writing of the work at Forest, said that a good Sunday School had been organized with attendance from 50 to 75. This was the beginning of Sunday School work there.

At Magnolia, in the summer, preparations were under way to make improvements on the church building, according to J. W. Sandell, pastor.

History of Methodism

John G. Jones wrote from Port Gibson on December 17, 1880, that at the end of four years he had manuscript enough for several medium-sized volumes—from 1799 to 1867. It is to be regretted that not all of this valuable material found its way into print.

Sunday School Exhibition

Reference has been made to a notable quarterly conference at Washington Church, Greene county, held by R. J. Jones August 31-September 1. Below is a program at this church late in the year:

Day Program: 1. Bible reading. 2. Singing. 3. Prayer by Dr. James Green. 4. Class in infant catechism. 5. Class in advanced catechism. 6. Class in lesson papers. 7. Singing. 8. Declamation. 9. March.

Night Program: 1. Declamation—Marcus Green. 2. Declamation—Alex Breland. 3. Tableau. 4. Composition by Miss E. V. Green. 5. Declamation—David Turner. 6. Tableau. 7. Speech—Jackson Bradford.

Visit of J. W. Lambuth

Dr. J. W. Lambuth, the Mississippi Conference missionary to China, returned to this country this year on account of his health, the trouble being bronchitis and nervous prostration. Accompanied by his wife, he took a China steamer about the middle of

May, 1880. In August they were at Reed City, Michigan, and in September they were in Baltimore. In November he reached Madison county, Mississippi, just in time to witness the death of his sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Stevens, who left three children.

Bishop David S. Doggett

The November 4 issue of the *Advocate* had a page in mourning for Bishop David S. Doggett, who had died on Wednesday, October 27, 1880, in Richmond, Virginia. His only official visit among us was when he held the Mississippi Conference in 1870. He was a great bishop, a man of God, and servant of the Church. He was born in Virginia in 1810.

New Churches Established or Dedicated

At Rodney a church was organized in the fall of this year following a revival held in the Presbyterian church, which resulted in 9 accessions.

At Holly Bush on the Prairie mission, A. D. Miller, pastor, a new church was dedicated, probably in August or September. R. A. Sibley preached the sermon from Rev. 21:3. At this writing this church is on the Fannin charge, Jackson District.

At Scott Station, near Pass Christian, a new church was dedicated on October 28 by J. W. McLaurin. The church was made possible by the gift of Henry Ware, who paid $329.00 of the $502.00 cost.

Death Among the Laity in 1880

Mrs. Amanda Harris, of Natchez, a cousin of John G. Jones, died on January 6, 1880, aged 84. For 56 years she was a consistent Christian and a most consistent Methodist.

Mrs. Rebecca M. Neel, wife of the late Thomas S. Neel, died at her residence near Cayuga in Hinds county, on January 29, aged 71.

Mrs. Sarah Mathewson, a native of Sligo, Ireland, and one who was baptized as an infant in the old St. John Church, New York City, where she became a member, passed triumphantly to her reward, having been a member of the Natchez church for 62 years. She came to Natchez in 1818 with her father, the Rev. James Carson, and brought her certificate of membership on arrival.

James C. Harper, who had settled in Scott county, Mississippi, in 1850, and accumulated a handsome fortune, died at the age of 54. A native of Alabama, he joined the church when 20, was elected a steward in 1855 and served until 1878.

Mrs. M. A. E. Jones, wife of Benjamin Jones of the Mississippi Conference and daughter of Col. M. T. and E. M. Collier of Louisville, Mississippi, died in Raymond, January 25, 1880, aged 40. Well educated, she was married three times and was the mother of two children by her first husband, Augustus B. Redding. She joined the church at Port Gibson in 1870, and lived a careful, Christian life. Her faith triumphed in death; she was buried at Wesson.

Mrs. Anna Jane Barkley, died in her home in Warren county on February 1, being 63 years old. A native of Virginia, she united with the church when young and was a faithful member for over 50 years. She and her husband had moved to Warren county in 1849.

U. R. Underwood died at his residence in Newton county, February 8, 1880, aged 63. A native of Tennessee, he joined the church at White Plains in Newton county in 1856 and was a consistent member till his death.

Mrs. Susan E. Spencer, of Cookville, died on February 16, aged 43. Reared in affluence in South Carolina, she married Shep Spencer in 1857. She was a member of the Baptist Church till within a few years of her death when she joined the Methodist Church to be with her husband. She was cultured, refined, genial, and a sincere Christian.

Mrs. Martha Clark, daughter of James and Elizabeth Bolls, was born near Fayette, in Jefferson county on August 28, 1799, and died near Rocky Springs in Claiborne county on February 20, 1880, aged 81. She married William Edwin and, after his death, Col. Elijah L. Clark. She united with the Methodist Church at a camp meeting near Shiloh about 1830. Her membership was at Rocky Springs for nearly 50 years.

Nancy Mariah Watkins, daughter of Asa and Sarah Watkins, born in Jefferson county, May 20, 1805, married Dr. B. W. M. Minter, March 2, 1820, and joined the church September 10, 1821, the first member of the Watkins family to become a Methodist; she died at Sharon on February 29, 1880. They moved to Madison county in 1833, with others from Jefferson county, and settled seven miles from Canton.

William Lyons, born near Cheraw Hill, South Carolina, on September 11, 1800, moved to Tennessee in 1803, grew up at Clarksville, married Rebecca Sutton in 1830, moved to Madison county, Mississippi, in 1835, and finally moved to Canton where he died March 21, 1880. He was a successful planter, having made a fortune and lost it by the Civil War. He was a friend to education and was president of the board of trustees of Canton Female Academy. He joined the church in 1854. George Harvey of Canton is a grandson.

Mrs. Mary Reid, the wife of Dr. T. J. Reid of Hot Springs and the daughter of Col. J. B. Greaves of Edwards, died on July 7.

Mrs. Carrie B. White died at Seashore Campground on August 7, where she had come for restoration of health. She was the wife of Rev. B. F. White of the Louisiana Conference.

Mrs. M. F. Swayze, mother of Mrs. R. D. Norsworthy, was born in Adams county, January 12, 1812, married Lewis Swayze, and died August 8, 1880.

Mrs. Lydia Goff, daughter of Rev. Burniss Gray, was born in Jackson county, December 22, 1827, and died August 12, 1880, leaving a husband, four sons and six daughters.

Louise Pallant was born in Cheltenham, England, November 21, 1830, and joined the Methodist Church in the Isle of Wight at the age of 16. She married Thomas Chambers, April 13, 1852, and came to America in the same year.

Eliza Carson, the oldest member of the church in Natchez, died on August 16, 1880. The daughter of the Rev. James Carson, she was born in New York in 1806, and joined the church in Natchez in 1836.

Micajah McGehee, son of Judge Edward McGehee, of Woodville, died at the family residence near Woodville on August 21, aged 54.

Judge Edward McGehee died at his residence at Woodville, Friday, October 7, lacking about a month of being 94 years of age. A native of Georgia, he had lived at Woodville about 70 years. He was successful in business, and had accumulated an immense fortune, although it was impaired during the Civil War. He was public spirited, far sighted, and philanthropic. Being interested in education, he established an academy in Woodville and was a friend and supporter of Centenary College also. A Methodist, all his life he was devoted to the church. He established a church in New Orleans, Poydras Street, which is now Carondelet Street. The corporate title was "The McGehee Methodist Episcopal Church, South," and the building cost about $40,000. The funeral sermon was preached by Bishop John C. Keener at Carondelet Church in New Orleans.

Asa Coleman, a leading layman of Sharon, died at his home in Madison county on October 27, aged 57. He was a native of Adams county.

Mrs. Kittwood King Ballard, daughter of Rev. Jesse King and niece of Rev. Peter James, was born in Pike county, October 1, 1814, and died December 1, 1880. She married John Ballard on March 4, 1836. Converted when a child, at the age of 14 she was received into the church and remained a faithful member.

CHAPTER XII

1881

Conference at Vicksburg

The Conference convened at Vicksburg, December 8-13, 1880. There was no Bishop present during the Conference. C. G. Andrews was elected President on the first ballot, and his place as Secretary was filled by the election of J. A. B. Jones, Assistant Secretary of the last Conference. T. W. Brown was elected Assistant Secretary, and H. M. DuBose was again elected Recording Secretary, while W. C. Black retained his place as Statistical Secretary. There were 80 clerical members present, and 15 lay delegates.

Visitors Present

The Conference was honored by the presence of Dr. J. B. McFerrin of Nashville; Rev. H. O. White of the Louisiana Conference; Revs. J. S. Oakley and Q. A. Oats of the North Mississippi Conference; Dr. E. E. Hoss, President of Martha Washington College, Virginia, elected Bishop in 1902; R. Price, pastor of the Vicksburg Presbyterian Church; and, G. T. Lanthrop, publisher of the *New Orleans Christian Advocate.*

Admissions and Demissions

Five were *admitted on trial,* and these all proved to be useful members: Newton M. Clark, Andrew D. Miller, Levi S. Jones, Harrison Bradford, William R. Sims.

James P. Dancer, from the North Mississippi Conference, and Josiah M. Pugh, from the Northwest Texas Conference, were *received by transfer.*

Those *located* this year were J. T. Graham and C. W. Campbell.

R. B. Downer was added to the *supernumerary* list.

W. E. M. Linfield was added to the *superannuate* roll.

One preacher had *died,* Andrew Day.

E. F. Mullins *withdrew.* M. A. Bell was *discontinued* at his own request, and Louis Kendall was expelled, only to be readmitted in 1884.

Conditions Around Moss Point

In order to get a clear picture, following the siege of yellow fever, we give an abbreviated form of an address given by Chancellor Wood at the recent Conference concerning the Moss Point circuit. The assessments had been met; it was not a farming country, but lumber manufacturing; in the plague of yellow fever four or five years ago, about 100 had died, including some of the best paying members. The next year the disease came again with like results, and the third year the Government seized all the logs and lumber, and the mills stopped. There was a large response to other calls for help; the parsonage was repaired for about $200; the company gave lumber and built every church in twenty miles. It was all done by systematic collections, the stewards making all collections. This faithful church rose above the circumstances and succeeded despite all hindrances.

Report on Temperance

A great contest against the sale of liquor in Mississippi was beginning about this time, and while the church was already aligned against this foe, the fight was growing in numbers and in strength. Chas. B. Galloway was chairman of the Committee appointed by the Conference on Temperance, and doubtless wrote the report:

> "We have considered a communication from the Mississippi Baptist State Convention, through its Secretary, to this Conference, asking our co-operation in devising and executing plans for the suppression of intemperance and the liquor traffic. Recognizing this as the greatest foe to Chris-

tianity and the foulest curse upon society, we could but respond with readiness and assure our brethren of that large Christian denomination of our hearty co-operation in furthering the gracious measures proposed."

The report continues and closes with the following resolutions:

"*Resolved,* That a committee of three be appointed to act with similar committees from other Christian bodies in memorializing the Legislature to so amend the liquor laws that local option may apply to the entire business —its sale in any quantity.

"*Resolved,* That we regard it a compromise of Christian character for any member of the church to sign a petition to retail liquor.

"*Resolved,* That we will use our best endeavors to secure the suppression and prohibition of the liquor traffic in every neighborhood of our Conference."

C. B. Galloway, W. L. C. Hunnicutt and R. S. Woodward were appointed as the committee.

Whitworth Female College

Two of the alumnae of Whitworth College made an effort to have the College transferred to the State to be endowed by the State and improved for larger usefulness, and to make permanent its situation; but after some consideration by a committee to whom it was referred, the matter ended in a respectful but decisive resolution that the Conference could not consistently comply with the request.

James J. Smylie

James J. Smylie died at Quitman on January 1, 1881. Born in Copiah County, October 9, 1829, of Presbyterian ancestors, he became a Methodist because his father joined the Methodist Church when he settled in Copiah county, for the time being, as there was no Presbyterian church near him. The home was open to the preachers, and James became fond of the Methodists and joined the church at Pleasant Valley in 1849. He married, October 24, 1854, Miss Sallie E. Stovall, an accomplished young lady, and they had a delightful home, interesting children, and became the possessors of a large estate.

His training was received at Centenary College and at Oxford, Mississippi, and while teaching a large and flourishing school at Brookhaven, two of his children died suddenly. He then turned to God again, and was called to preach. In 1871 he was admitted into the Mississippi Conference when nearly 42 years of age. Being well qualified to fill any appointment, he rapidly advanced and became useful as a servant of the Lord. He died at the Quitman Courthouse, Clarke county, January 1, 1881, leaving a wife and six children, one of whom became a Methodist preacher.

Quinnea Lewis

Quinnea Lewis, the aged layman who meant so much to Methodism, died at his home near Holmesville in Pike county on January 13, 1881, at nearly 87 years of age.

Born in Lenoir county, North Carolina, May 28, 1794, he married Miss Martha Speer on September 22, 1816, and came to Mississippi in 1820 and settled on Pearl River in Marion county. In 1843 he moved to Pike county and settled on Magee's Creek. In the winter of 1856-57 they moved to Holmesville, and settled near there; it was here that he and his wife died. He united with the church on June 15, 1822, at Union Academy, now Payne Chapel in Marion county. He was a great churchman and Christian. They had ten children in the family. His wife also was a great Christian and worker in the church, and the descendants have a heritage to be prized most highly. Rev. George Nicholson, writing from Holmesville on January 14, said, "A father in Israel has fallen asleep"; the Editor of the *Advocate* said, "Brother Quinnea Lewis, father of Revs. H. P. and W. B. Lewis of the Mississippi Conference, fell asleep. Brother Lewis died as he had lived, full of faith and hope of a glorious resurrection."

W. H. Watkins

Dr. W. H. Watkins, one of the giants of Mississippi Methodism, died at the parsonage in Jackson on Saturday morning, February

5, at the age of sixty-five. The funeral was conducted by C. K. Marshall, John F. Hunter, Presbyterian pastor, and H. F. Sproles, Baptist pastor. He was buried for a short while in Jackson, then his remains were removed to his old home church which he loved so much, Cane Ridge, in Jefferson county, on April 6, 1881, accompanied by C. K. Marshall, who delivered an appropriate discourse. John G. Jones and Jno. A. B. Jones also had a part in the ceremonies.

William Hamilton Watkins, son of Asa Watkins and Sarah McDonald Watkins, was born in Jefferson county, Mississippi, April 11, 1815, where he grew up. In early life he found Christ at a camp meeting near his home, united with the church, and became an active member. Soon he was impressed with a call to preach. Although lacking in educational advantages, he was licensed as a local preacher and was useful in that capacity, but on the death of a young preacher friend of his (Jonathan C. Jones) he was aroused to the conviction that he should give himself entirely to the ministry, and was received into the Mississippi Conference on trial in November, 1835. His first assignment was a junior preacher to J. I. E. Byrd on the Madison circuit.

On this work he showed his ability as a coming preacher, fitted both in head and heart, and developed those noble qualities that made him a leader in the Church all through his life. By study and application, especially in the classics and the Bible, as well as theology and fundamental doctrines, he really became a scholar, and was granted the degree of Doctor of Divinity by Centenary College, of which at one time he was president. He was the first native Mississippian to receive this degree, which he highly merited.

In his labors in the Conference he filled every office in the itineracy, save that of Bishop. He was a member of the Louisville Convention in 1845, repeatedly represented the Conference at the General Conference, and he was honored several times in being elected to preside over his brethren when no Bishop was present at the Annual Conference. He was a humble, dignified man and minister among his people, and to him religion was real.

He married in New Orleans in 1842, seven years after becoming a member of the Conference. He fell quietly asleep in Jesus, leaving his wife and a large family of sons and daughters, educated and well equipped for life. Among them was Alexander Farrar Watkins, who followed his example faithfully and well.

Communications

A. F. Watkins, called home from Vanderbilt University, wrote a letter of thanks to Dr. Linus Parker, editor, for the letter his mother received from him on the severe illness of his father, Dr. W. H. Watkins, in Jackson.

Parmenas Howard, the newly appointed preacher in charge of the Pearlington circuit, related his experience in reaching his appointment for 1881: there was train delay for twelve hours, then slow procedure trying to arrive for the delicious dinner, but finally arrived to eat it the next day, Saturday. On Sunday he preached to a fair crowd, but felt the sermon was like the weather, cold. Then fell a snow the like of which was rarely seen at that place.

R. B. Downer reported from Oxford, Mississippi, on the high moral condition prevailing among the students and faculty. W. B. Murrah, afterwards President of Millsaps College and Bishop, was pastor in his fourth year, and was highly esteemed.

A letter from J. P. Drake, of Bolton, in reporting his work, spoke highly of the waters of Cooper's Well, four miles away, which was discovered by Rev. Preston Cooper, father of I. W. Cooper.

J. W. Lambuth

Dr. J. W. Lambuth, resting and recuperating at Ocean Springs, sent out a list of appointments in the interest of a Sanatorium for missionaries: Moss Point, February 27; Citronelle, March 2; Shubuta, March 6; Enterprise, March 8; Meridian, March 10; Starkville, March 13; Brandon, March 16; Crystal Springs, March 18; Brookhaven, March 20; Jackson, March 22; Natchez, March 27; Madison, March 31; and, Canton, April 3.

District Conferences

The Seashore District Conference met in Moss Point on May 26; T. S. West presided and J. W. Stewart was secretary. Dr. E. F. Griffin and Henry Ware were elected trustees of the Seashore Campground. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference: Geo. Wood, Henry Ware, and J. W. Stewart.

The Vicksburg District Conference was held at Fayette, June 3-5, with J. A. Ellis as presiding elder. Bishop Keener arrived on the second day and presided. A committee was appointed to secure a district parsonage at some suitable place in the District. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference: G. J. Bahin, Henry Key, T. A. Holloman, and Rev. W. G. Millsaps.

The Brookhaven District Conference was held at Brookhaven, July 28-30, with H. F. Johnson, presiding elder, in the chair. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: David McKee, F. D. Wimberly, I. V. Enochs, and J. B. Bowen, a local elder.

Commencements

Announcement was made that the Commencement sermon of the East Mississippi Female College would be preached by Rev. H. Urquhart of the Alabama Conference, and that Rev. W. R. Sims of Brandon and Dr. John Mathews of New Orleans would deliver addresses. The graduates were Ada Smith, Maggie Brown, Fannie Moore, Sallie Whitaker, of Meridian; Mary Mathews, Hazlehurst; Annie Chambers, Leake county; Mattie Wiggins, Cuba, Alabama; and Ella Deal, Philadelphia, Mississippi. Miss Anna D. Koger was president of the Alumnae; Miss Pinkie Moore, vice-president; Miss Nellie Moody, secretary; and Miss Jimmie Thornton, treasurer.

E. H. Mounger reported the Whitworth College Commencement exercises. Bishop Keener preached the sermon, noble and impressive; Beverly Carradine delivered an elegant and appropriate address before the Christian Association; Hon. E. John Ellis, of New Orleans, a member of Congress, delivered the Alumnae address on "The Relation of American Women to American Politics"; and B. M. Palmer, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, New Orleans, delivered the annual address in a masterful way.

C. G. Andrews, president of Centenary College, preached the Commencement sermon of Port Gibson Female College. Gen. J. D. Vertner delivered the address. J. A. B. Jones tendered his resignation as president, and it was accepted.

The Question of Prohibition

The matter of prohibition and the liquor laws were being discussed, being among the leading questions of the day. Many good and faithful men were arguing the merits and demerits of the Mississippi Pint Law passed by the Legislature. Hon. Thomas L. Mellen was a member of the Legislature and defended this law vigorously, while such men as Charles B. Galloway and Thomas P. Barr opposed it just as earnestly. Mr. Barr, a leading layman of the Methodist church in Jackson, wrote an article entitled, "We Want Prohibition," and undertook to answer some objections to an article by T. L. Mellen. Both were good and useful men, each wanting the same thing, but hoping to secure it in a different way.

Col. W. L. Nugent, of Jackson, had the honor of inaugurating the prohibition movement in Mississippi in a practical way. A committee, meeting in Jackson on April 29, called a convention to meet in Jackson on July 20 to make a declaration of principles and to organize.

Dr. John Mathews, of New Orleans, who came to be one of the grand old men of Methodism, wrote a ringing article for the *Advocate* on the subject, "Youth's Appeal for Protection Against Rum." He was a very familiar figure at the Seashore, the Crystal Springs, and other camp meetings in Mississippi. He was transferred to Kansas City and left on October 26 of this year. He never lost interest in this subject of prohibition.

Camp Meetings

We have a report of a number of the camp meetings this year: Mounger's Creek, near State Line, August 29-September 5; Lake, July 19, J. M. Gann, P. E., and I. L. Peebles, pastor; St. Matthews, near Hickory, Friday before the fourth Sunday in August; Providence, August 17-23; Crystal Springs, August 4, H. F. Johnson in charge; China Grove, Friday before the fourth Sunday in August.

The Seashore campground was in good order and improvements were made during the year. A severe storm in February had swept away all the bathhouses and piers, but they were reconstructed, and a new restaurant provided. The meeting began on Wednesday, July 13, and closed on Thursday night, July 21. Drs. J. B. Walker, O. R. Blue, and T. S. West were in charge. Attending the camp meeting were 16 preachers from the Louisiana Conference, 33 from the Mississippi, 13 from the Alabama, and a few others from the North Mississippi, and North Alabama Conferences, and from the German Mission.

The camp meeting on the Trenton campground in August was full of interest and the singing was good. The preachers were A. D. Miller, Geo. Bancroft, W. W. Cammack. J. H. Vincent, and C. McDonald. At the quarterly conference which was held during the meeting (J. M. Gann, presiding elder, and C. McDonald, pastor), W. A. Lane and R. E. Lee were licensed to preach.

The Andrew Chapel camp meeting in Wayne county began on September 25. J. C. Brogan, pastor, was assisted by J. A. Godfrey, E. F. Edgar, Wm. Spillman, J. M. Weems, and Messrs. Horter and Gorden, local preachers. There was much rain, but it was a gracious meeting with 26 conversions and 7 accessions. During the meeting a Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was organized at Andrews Chapel with 10 members. Officers elected were: Mrs. Elizabeth Bell, president; Mrs. A. Wiggins, vice-president; Miss E. Long, recording secretary; Miss Bettie Bell, corresponding secretary; and Miss Jane Bell, treasurer. Also there was organized a Society for Liberty, with officers as follows: Mrs. C. D. Pettus, president; Mrs. T. E. Carter, vice-president; Miss Ella Brogan, recording secrtary; Miss Maggie Parker, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Hartwell Parker, treasurer.

The Salem camp meeting and the New Prospect camp meeting were reported by J. M. Weems, pastor at Moss Point, who attended each of them. C. W. Calhoun and J. S. Calhoun were the pastors respectively, and T. S. West was the presiding elder. At Salem there were 12 conversions and 7 new members; at New Prospect there were 50 conversions and 15 new members. A. C. Ramsey, more than 70 years old, preached a fatherly, faithful and fine sermon at New Prospect on Sunday morning. Dr. Weems says: "Here we found a new house of worship and several new tents that have been erected this year."

The Union camp meeting on the Wayne circuit, J. C. Brogan, pastor, was reported by Mrs. Brogan. It began on Friday night, October 16, and closed the following Tuesday night. There were 16 conversions and 14 accessions.

Other Revivals and Reports

H. P. Lewis in his third year on Amite circuit had received about 175 members.

J. T. Heard, writing from Enterprise on April 13, reported a meeting just closed there in which 13 persons professed to have found Christ. He was assisted by B. R. Duvel, formerly a member of the Virginia Conference but now a local evangelist.

A. D. Miller, pastor, reported the work of the seven churches on the Fannin charge. The parsonage was at Fannin. The second quarterly conference was well entertained at Providence church, April 16-17, and 20 members had been received to date. J. M. Gann was presiding elder.

R. D. Norsworthy, appointed at the last Conference to Meridian, reporting on May 2, announced the reception of seven by profession and nine by transfer. L. P. Brown was superintendent of the Sunday School.

L. S. Jones wrote from Daleville that he had been in Cooper Institute for four years and had not witnessed a greater revival than this year, although all had been great. During this revival 43 had been converted. He added, "I question whether there is a school in the South that equals it as a social and moral educator; it is ending its twelfth session and 400 young men have been converted under its earnest labors."

W. B. Lewis reported a revival at Whitworth College where there were at least 20 conversions and 40 accessions, mostly of the pupils of the college. The assistants in the meeting were W. W. Hopper and Beverly Carradine.

W. W. Hopper, pastor at Summit, reported 30 conversions and 22 accessions in a gracious meeting there; he was assisted by W. H. Leith, W. B. Lewis, and Elijah Tarver.

A total loss by fire of the parsonage and its furniture on the Bethel circuit, T. J. Miller, pastor, occurred on June 25, 1881.

There was a good meeting with eight accessions at Gainesville, on Pearl River in Hancock county, in which the pastor of the Pearlington circuit, Parmenas Howard, was assisted by T. S. West, P. E., and M. C. Callaway of Handsboro. There was a loss of two members at Logtown: Mrs. Roberts and Mrs. Anne E. Gray having died at Pearlington on the same day.

The pastor at Newton, George Bancroft, gave an account of a profitable meeting there, with nine accessions; and meetings also at Hickory and Spring Hill, each with two accessions.

W. W. Hurst, pastor at Mt. Olivet in the Vicksburg District, reported a meeting at that place, assisted by D. A. Givens of Dover circuit, with eight conversions and eight accessions.

A. D. Miller on the Fannin circuit received only 16 members up to July, but his summer revivals brought gracious results. In a meeting, assisted by Messrs. Adkisson, Sibley, Ray, Williams, and W. R. Sims, there were 28 accessions. This was followed by 18 accessions in a meeting at Bethlehem, assisted by James Healey of Ludlow, and Rev. Mr. Ashmore, a Presbyterian. About 95 in all had been added up to the middle of August, with more meetings yet to be held.

D. P. Bradford, the pastor of the Fayette circuit, reported a good meeting at Ebenezer, with 14 accessions and 25 conversions. He was assisted by I. D. Wall and A. F. Watkins.

W. G. Millsaps wrote of a four-day meeting at Meadville with 18 accessions.

Beauregard had a good meeting, in which D. C. Langford, pastor, was assisted by W. B. Lewis, A. M. Barrington and E. F. Mullins, with 15 added to the church.

J. W. Ellison, reporting the work of the six churches on the Walnut Grove circuit, said that in four meetings 33 had been added to the church.

M. C. Callaway, pastor, told of the Handsboro circuit: the churches were at Handsboro, with 400 white population and 50 Methodists, and a good house of worship: Bay St. Louis with 2,000 population, a good church building, and 16 members, well attended at times; Scott, near Pass Christian, with a small population and 14 members. He had received four members and baptized nine children during the year.

The Ecumenical Conference

Methodism's first Ecumenical Conference met in City Road Chapel, London, on September 7, 1881, with nearly 400 present. Bishop McTyeire, on behalf of American Methodism, responded to the British address of welcome in a very fine way. In May of this year, Dr. C. K. Marshall had been appointed a delegate in place of Bishop Wightman who was sick. C. G. Andrews also attended this Conference and read an able and important paper on the general subject of education.

President Garfield

The *Advocate* had a page in mourning in its issue of September 22, for the death of President Garfield. The President had been wounded by an assassin, and after 80 days of suspense, died at Elberton, New Jersey, on September 19, 1881.

New Churches and Parsonages

It was reported in May that the new parsonage at Sharon in Madison county was completed.

The New Hope church on the Waynsboro circuit was organized in 1881, the Sunday School organized, and a church building erected. This building was replaced in 1893 by another valued at $2,000, and with a seating capacity of 200. W. W. Cammack was the first pastor.

Big Rock church, also on the Waynesboro circuit, was organized in 1881; it took the place of Salem which was organized in 1832 and disbanded in 1880. The Big Rock Sunday School also was organized in 1881 and the first building erected, valued at $1,000. R. A. Breland, who lived at Waynesboro, was the first pastor.

Other Items of Interest

D. A. Little wrote a timely address to the Methodists of the Williamsburg District, and put it in pamphlet form. It was on the subject of our ability to give, and to give to the church, and suggested the wisdom of buying land for church purposes while it was cheap.

Dr. C. G. Andrews, pastor of the church at Clinton station, Louisiana, and president of Centenary College, returned after an absence of three months attending the Ecumenical Conference in London. He had contributed a number of interesting articles to the *Advocate* while absent. The students, through B. F. Jones, presented resolutions of appreciation of his return.

James Adolphus Moore, afterwards a member of the Mississippi

Conference, was admitted on trial this year into the Alabama Conference at Selma, Bishop Pierce presiding. He was a faithful, good, and true man. He was professor of mathematics at Millsaps College beginning at the session of 1894, the year the writer entered. He died in 1908.

District School

A District School was opened at Newton in 1881 by Rev. M. H. Moore, a local deacon, with an attendance of 123 pupils. He was assisted by Professor J. W. Guthrie and Miss Mattie Watts.

Some Deaths During the Year

The death of *John W. Robinson*, a prominent layman of Jackson, in February caused a profound impression and was a public loss.

Mrs. Nancy Millsaps, wife of Green Millsaps, died on February 19, 1881, aged 70. She was born near Wright's church in Franklin county, called at the time Wright's Campground, where annual meetings were held. Soon after her marriage she lived near Sweetwater church in Copiah county. She joined the church in early girlhood.

Mrs. Alice Cammack, mother of Rev. W. W. Cammack of the Mississippi Conference, died at her home in Copiah county on March 10, 1881. She was born in Simpson county in 1831, married in 1848, and was converted and joined the church in 1853. She was the mother of 10 children.

Mrs. Lavina Rounsaville died in Green county on March 22. The daughter of Isaac Futch, she was born in Alabama about 1825 and married Robert Rounsaville on January 15, 1844. She joined the church in early life, and lived and died an acceptable member.

I. W. Cooper reported from his home in Greensburg, Louisiana, the death of his little son, *Keener Walker Cooper.*

Mrs. Wm. Spillman, wife of the pastor at Enterprise, passed to her reward after a life-long membership in the Methodist church.

Ellen Adeline Davis, a 15-year-old girl of Jackson county, was bitten by a rattlesnake on the evening of May 10 and died the following morning from its effects.

Mrs. L. G. Dunn, long a member of the church at Yazoo City, converted in youth, died on May 23, 1881.

Mrs. Cynthia T. Reeves died in Canton on May 16, aged 84. A native of Georgia, she moved to Mississippi in 1844, and was a resident of Madison county for 37 years. Twice married, her first husband was John G. Towns, a brother of the Governor of Georgia. She was a member of the church for 53 years.

Henry W. Walker, a native of Mecklenburg county, Virginia, died at his home in Clarke county, Mississippi, on September 19, aged 62. He married Miss Mary Moss in 1841, came to Clarke county in 1859, and lived there till his death.

James E. Buntyn died near Buntyn Springs campground in Neshoba county on May 25, aged 75. Born in Abbeville District, South Carolina, in 1806, he married Miss M. M. Johnson in Henry county, Georgia, in 1832, and moved to Greenville, Alabama, in 1856 and to Mississippi in May 1865.

Capt. Asbury Enochs died at his residence in Rankin county on June 24.

Brunner and *James Havens,* on the Vancleave charge, were killed by lightning on July 25, and a Mr. Tanner and a Negro were severely stunned.

Mrs. Sybil Robertson Campbell, daughter of Martin Ruter, D.D., and the wife of the Rev. Lewell Campbell of the Mississippi Conference, who died in 1860, passed to her reward at her home at Jackson, Louisiana, on October 9, 1881, more than 77 years of age. Funeral services were conducted by D. M. Rush. Four of her five children had also preceded her in death. Her father, Rev. Martin Ruter, a pioneer missionary to Texas, which was then in the bounds of the Mississippi Conference, was said to have been the first Methodist preacher in America to receive the degree of Doctor of Divinity. She married Rev. Lewell Campbell of Kentucky, who had volunteered for service in Texas, but who returned to Mississippi for the Annual Conference session and remained here until his death. For some years he was president of Elizabeth Academy, but she really was in charge of the school. Mrs. Martha Farrar, the last surviving student of Elizabeth Academy, who died in 1926, was in school when the Campbells were there.

Mrs. Catherine Brown, wife of George Brown, died at her residence at Handsboro on October 15, 1881, aged 79.

Mrs. Catherine Brown, wife of George Brown, died at her residence at Natchez on October 29. Born in Nova Scotia in 1835, she was of Romish parentage, but joined the Methodist church after her marriage in 1860.

James Madison Moor was born in Virginia in 1831, came to Smith county with his parents in 1844, married Miss Lindora Robinson in 1860, and he and his wife were converted and joined the church together in 1866.

Mrs. Jane N. Gibson, widow of David Gibson of Warren county, died at the age of 63. Born in Jefferson county in 1817; when 15 she married a Mr. Cochran who soon died. When 17 she married David Gibson, and they established a happy home and to them were born sons and daughters. She was a member of the church for more than 40 years.

The Ford Family

The death of Joseph M. Ford at his home in Caddo parish, Louisiana, in the latter part of 1881, took the last member of a family that had been well known in the annals of Mississippi, Louisiana, and even Texas Methodism for more than half a century. His grandfather, Captain James Ford, a soldier in the Revolution, died in South Carolina in 1804, and soon afterward his father, Rev. John Ford, a Methodist local preacher, left his native State and came with his wife, formerly Catharine Ard of Robson county, North Carolina, with their seven children to Mississippi, to try their fortunes in this pioneer land. Joseph M. Ford was born in Claiborne county on February 23, 1809, near Red Lick, the first of the four children who were born after the family came to Mississippi. In the latter part of the same year Rev. John Ford and several of his brothers moved to Marion county and settled along Pearl River near the 31st degree of latitude.

The brothers of Rev. John Ford were men of industry and character who left the impress of their life and activity on several communities in Mississippi and nearby States. One of them, Solomon Jesse Ford, died in 1820 as a justice of the peace in Hancock county, a position of far more importance in a new land than it is today; Stephen Ford died a few years later and was buried in the old cemetery near Spring Cottage; none of the descendants of these two brothers is known. Ebenezer Ford removed from Marion county to St. Tammany parish, near Covington, where he passed away in 1823; Judge Timothy Cooper, late of the Mississippi Supreme Court, was a descendant of Ebenezer Ford. Another brother, David Ford, removed to Holmes county, Mississippi, where he passed away in 1836. The family of Hon. J. Stewart Watson of Lexington is descended from David Ford. Most of the members of the well-known Ford family in Marion county are descended from Joseph Ford, another brother, whose wife was Sarah Rawls; among them the late Hon. Thomas Swift Ford, Attorney-General of the State of Mississippi, whose untimely death of yellow fever in the town of Scranton, now Pascagoula, brought to a close a career marked with brilliance and at the same time noted for the highest moral integrity and moral principle.

Possibly because of his profession and also because his house still stands after a century and a quarter, Rev. John Ford, father of Joseph Martin Ford, is better known than either of his brothers. Soon after coming to Marion county, Mississippi, about the latter part of 1809, he built near the present village of Sandy Hook the house now in possession of the Rankin family, descendants of his brother, Joseph Ford. Here he entertained the convention called to consider the admission of Mississippi as a State and here he had as his guest Bishop William McKendree more than once, the longest visit being in connection with the Annual Conference of 1818, the business sessions of which were held in the Ford home. The Annual Conference of 1814 was appointed to meet there also, but for the convenience of those concerned it was changed to White's campground in Amite county. The official records disclose the fact that Andrew Jackson spent one night in the Ford home on his way to New Orleans.

Joseph Martin Ford grew up from infancy in his father's home, spending part of his youth with a sister, Mrs. Thomas Griffin in Hinds county. When only 21 he held the position of Judge of the Orphans Court for Marion county. Later he moved with other members of the Ford family to Madison county, Mississippi, and finally to Caddo parish, Louisiana, where for 40 years he lived with the respect of his fellows and the confidence of the Methodist ministry, whom he often entertained in his home. The Honorable John McWilliams Ford of Shreveport is a descendant of Judge Joseph M. Ford.

The brothers and sisters of Joseph M. Ford have left an honorable name in Louisiana and Mississippi, as well as Texas and even more far-distant states. His oldest brother, Elias Ford, married Ruth Harper of Virginia and lived at the Ford home after the death of Rev. John Ford in 1826, until his own death in 1840. Robert D. Denson of Columbia and Mrs. Mamie Fairley Wilson of Hazlehurst are great-grandchildren of Elias Ford. Rev. John Ford's namesake, John Ford, Jr., also became a local Methodist preacher, and at his death in 1840 left a large family in Northwest Louisiana. His daughter married Rev. W. F. Henderson and their sons, Rev. W. F. Henderson, Jr., and Rev. H. C. Henderson, have adorned the Methodist ministry for a number of years. David Ford, Jr., brother of Joseph M. Ford, was also a local Methodist preacher and served in that capacity until his death in 1873. Mrs. O. M. Stone of Jasper, Texas, is a great granddaughter of David Ford, Jr.

Two of the sons of Rev. John Ford, Thomas Ford and Washington Ford, were members of the Mississippi Conference for a while, though both died in the local relation. The former was the first pastor and the builder of the first house of worship for the Methodists in Jackson, Mississippi. Two of the Ford daughters, sisters of Joseph M. Ford, married Methodist preachers. Ann Ford, after the death of her first husband, Hugh Ervin, married Rev. Thomas Griffin, and Semantha married Rev. Miles Harper. Aseneth Ford married John Ervin and died at the age of 19, leaving two children. The youngest daughter, Catharine, and the youngest son, Samuel Ford, were children when their father, Rev. John Ford, died, but they lived with their mother for a number of years in Madison county, and finally in Louisiana. Catharine was buried in the same cemetery, some few miles west of Shreveport, with her brother, John Ford, Jr.; Samuel Ford went to New Orleans and died there in 1857. His son, William Penn Ford, was one of the founders of the firm of Pennick and Ford, which is still actively engaged in business.

After the death of her husband Mrs. Catharine Ard Ford lived for many years with her children, first at the Ford home at Sandy Hook, next in Madison county, and finally in Caddo parish, Louisiana. The mother of 13 children, she had lived long and honorably, and entertained the greatest in Church and State in her home. In his journal Bishop McKendree left a moving testimony of her kindness when he was a guest in her home.

CHAPTER XIII

1882

Conference at Brookhaven

The Annual Conference was held in Brookhaven, December 14-19, 1881, with Bishop John C. Keener presiding. The secretary of the last Conference, J. A. B. Jones, called the roll, and more than 90 responded to the call of their names or were present during the Conference, a considerable increase over last year. The following lay delegates were present: W. L. Nugent, T. A. Phillips, D. Bunch, D. F. Ashford, H. C. Newsom, P. A. Richardson, W. Brame, C. S. Stewart, J. B. Bowen, I. V. Enochs, David McCree, R. S. Ricketts, Irvin Miller, W. M. Thornton, T. P. Bell, S. B. Watts, G. A. Leggett, J. W. McCormick, J. P. Carter, Daniel Calhoun, T. J. Ferrell, Geo. Wood, E. Miles, J. W. Stewart, and R. A. Tibbs.

C. G. Andrews was again secretary; J. A. B. Jones, assistant; E. H. Mounger, recording secretary; and W. C. Black, statistical secretary.

Admissions—Ordinations, etc.

Six were *admitted on trial:* J. Wilson Brown, from North Wilkinson; Thos. W. Adams, from Carthage; James Healy, Forest; Robert F. Witt, Shubuta; D. Fernando Guice, Meadville; and Martin A. Bell, Mt. Olivet.

Warren W. Cammack, J. T. Nicholson, Joseph J. Lovett, traveling preachers, were *ordained deacons.* The following local preachers were *ordained deacons:* Matthew J. Miller, Wm. R. Sims, D. Fernando Guice, Robert S. Gale, and James J. Weems.

The Bishop announced that during the year he had ordained D. Webster McLean to be a local deacon.

Clarence A. Powell, William W. Simmons, John S. Calhoun, and James H. Muse, L. P., were *ordained elders*. The Bishop announced that he had ordained as elders during the year J. Perry Drake, Inman W. Cooper, and Benton S. Rayner; and also Alexander Scarborough as a local elder.

H. Bradford was *discontinued* at his own request; and C. W. Barrier, received this year from the Texas Conference, was discontinued.

W. W. Cammack, J. T. Nicholson, M. C. Callaway, J. W. Chambers, and J. J. Lovett were *received into full connection*.

Two of the preachers had *died* during the year, W. H. Watkins and J. J. Smylie.

Transfers to Other Conferences

W. H. Leith was transferred to the Holston Conference; H. M. DuBose to the Texas Conference; and B. T. Pearson to the North Mississippi Conference.

Domestic Missions

The amount received at this Conference for the mission charges was $1,725.00, and the appropriations were paid in full for the year 1881, as follows:

R. S. Gale	Sunflower Mission	$125.00
J. Lusk	Hinds Mission	125.00
J. J. Healey	Ludlow Mission	100.00
T. B. Walden	Mt. Hebron Mission	100.00
T. Y. Armstrong	Shady Grove Mission	150.00
W. W. Cammack	Winchester Mission	100.00
E. F. Edgar	Livingston Mission	75.00
R. T. Davis	Bayou Sara Mission	125.00
B. S. Rayner	Franklinton Mission	125.00
J. C. Williams	Chickasahay Mission	75.00
D. Morehead	Red Creek Mission	100.00

J. J. Lovett	Spring Cottage Mission	50.00
D. A. Little	Williamsburg Mission	200.00
M. C. Callaway	Handsboro Mission	75.00
T. S. West	Biloxi Mission	200.00

Our Schools and Colleges

Centenary College was steadily improving; 18 young men were preparing for the ministry, the instruction for them being free of charge.

Port Gibson Collegiate Institute was in a growing condition; 68 young women were enrolled as students. T. C. Bradford was elected president during the year to succeed J. A. B. Jones, resigned, and the buildings were repaired and furnished.

East Mississippi Female College had an enrollment of 120; another brick building had been erected; J. W. Adkisson was continued as president, and Ransom J. Jones as Professor.

Woodville Female Seminary had lost by death its president, A. J. Wright; and Benjamin Jones had been elected president.

Harvey F. Johnson, who had been serving as president, was elected permanent president of Whitworth College. The four thousand dollars the Conference assumed at the time the new brick building was donated to the church, had not been raised, and the following resolution was adopted:

> "*Resolved,* That the Board of Trustees of Whitworth Female College, be and they are, hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with H. F. Johnson, President, whereby he and the heirs of his body, shall have the right to occupy the Brown House on the college grounds, and the lots adjoining the same appurtenant thereto, so as not to interfere with the college buildings, or the use thereof, for the purposes of education, free from molestation or rent, until the principal sum of four thousand dollars, without interest, shall be returned to him by the Board of Trustees."

New Orleans and Northeastern Railroad

R. D. Norsworthy, pastor at Meridian, wrote that the first dirt was thrown on Monday, January 2, 1882, for the building of a railroad to New Orleans from Meridian. Capt. W. H. Hardy, vice-president of the railroad, promised that the road would be completed in twelve months, and that the trains would make the journey from Meridian to New Orleans in only seven hours. Methodist churches soon sprang up all along the line of the railroad.

From China

Dr. J. W. Lambuth returned to China in the fall of 1881 after a visit of some time in the United States and his native Conference, recuperating among his Methodist brethren. Following his return, he wrote to the Editor of the *Advocate:*

Shanghai, China, Nov. 29, 1881

Mr. Editor:

We arrived in Shanghai on Thursday, November 24, about four p.m., all well and in good spirits. We passed through France, and on to Geneva, and then down through Italy, and over to that almost God-forsaken country, Egypt, taking the Steamer of Suez October 21, and, after five weeks on the steamer, we reached Shanghai in safety, and all very well. I know, with others, you will rejoice with me when I tell you my health has been perfectly restored.

We shall certainly never forget our last visit to New Orleans, Mobile, and other places. We thank God that we were permitted to make the acquaintance of so many dear Christian friends, whose names will ever be dear to us.

Hoping to write soon to you a longer letter, I remain,

Your brother in Christ,
J. W. Lambuth

Mrs. J. W. Lambuth wrote an account of a service in Charles H. Spurgeon's church in London. Two new schools were being opened in China with approximately 200 pupils in each.

W. E. M. Linfield

On March 16, 1882, the Mississippi Conference lost by death one of its strong ministers.

William E. M. Linfield, the son of William and Martha Eleanor

Linfield, was born in Charleston, South Carolina, August 25, 1824, where he lived till he was 15 or 16 years of age. He was brought up in the Protestant Episcopal Church, of which his parents were members. It is not clear just when he joined the Methodist Church. While in the Mexican War he was attacked by a severe illness which seemed to bring him near death, and he promised God he would preach the gospel, if his life was spared; the prayer was answered, and he returned to eastern Mississippi and resumed his profession of teaching. In 1849, on April 22, he married Miss Sophronia J. Barker. He was converted the same year and began to feel as he had not before: "Woe unto me, if I preach not the gospel"; but he delayed till he lost by death his first two little boys, and he took this as a chastisement for the delay in fulfilling his promise to God.

He was admitted into the Alabama Conference in January, 1851. He labored eight years in the Alabama Conference, seven years in the Louisiana Conference, and 14 in the Mississippi Conference, for a total of 29 years of itinerant service. This service consisted of five years as pastor on circuits, 17 years as pastor of the most important station churches in our principal towns and cities, and seven years as presiding elder. He was superannuated at the Conference of 1880, his last appointment having been presiding elder of the Brookhaven District.

Floods

There were great floods in the Mississippi River during 1882. The water at Yazoo City in March was two feet above the mark of 1867.

Annual Meeting Woman's Missionary Society

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Mississippi Conference met at Crystal Springs on April 6. Mrs. Lucy A. Kidd was elected chairman and Miss Annie H. Gibbs acted as secretary. The new chairman was the widow of Dr. Henry Kidd of Yazoo

City and the daughter of Dr. J. B. C. Thornton of the first faculty of Centenary College. She was at this time a member of the faculty of Whitworth, and afterwards the wife of Bishop Joseph S. Key and the founder of Kidd-Key College in Texas.

There were only eight delegates present, although 20 societies sent reports. Those present were: Mrs. Steadman, Jackson; Miss Petty, Meridian; Miss Annie Gibbs, Raymond; Mrs. Dr. Jones, Bolton; Mrs. Kidd, Whitworth College; Mrs. R. W. Stewart, Madison; Miss Mollie Wansley, Bethesda; Mrs. Emma Seibe, Crystal Springs. The other societies that reported were Hazlehurst, Brandon, Vicksburg, Clinton, Sharon, Port Gibson, Moss Point, Greensburg, Enterprise, Woodville, Canton. *Members reported:* Jackson, 17; Meridian, 32; Raymond, 11; Clinton, 14; Bolton, 25; Whitworth College, 43; Madison, 28; Bethesda, 26; Crystal Springs, 20; subscribers to Woman's Missionary Society, 55. Total receipts, first quarter: $217.15.

Miss Annie Linfield was elected a delegate to the General Executive Association to be held at Nashville in May 1882; Mrs. Lucy A. Kidd and Mrs. Charles B. Galloway were elected alternates. Officers elected for 1882 were:

President	Mrs. W. L. C. Hunnicutt
Vice-President, Jackson District	Mrs. Steadman
Vicksburg District	Mrs. Mat Hardy
Woodville District	Mrs. Ben Jones
Seashore District	Mrs. J. M. Weems
Meridian District	Miss J. Petty
Brandon District	Mrs. Judy Mayes
Brookhaven District	Mrs. H. F. Johnson
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Kate Marshall
Corresponding Secretary	Miss Annie E. Linfield
Treasurer	Mrs. Annie DeMoss

Seashore Campground

The Seashore Campground, established in 1872, had had a struggle in its financial affairs, but in early May of 1882 it was reported to be free of debt, and the value was estimated at $20,000. It had a tabernacle which seated about 1200 persons, a prayer hall, restaurant, seven large sleeping tents, one large company tent, five district or pastor tents, one bishop's tent, 44 private tents, and 12 tents owned by the trustees.

Editor Elected Bishop

Dr. Linus Parker, editor of *The New Orleans Christian Advocate*, was elected Bishop by the General Conference at Nashville in May, and to succeed him Charles B. Galloway was elected editor by the Publishing Committee on May 30. An editorial followed on June 8:

> "With our apostolic blessing on three of its ex-editors, now honored Bishops in the Church, this Advocate ought to be happy, and allowed to indulge a little pardonable pride. It is a coincidence exceptional in American Methodism."

The three referred to were Bishops Holland N. McTyeire, John C. Keener, and Linus Parker. At this writing two more may be added: Charles B. Galloway himself and J. Lloyd Decell. This makes five editors of this *Advocate* who were elected bishops.

A reception for Bishop Parker was held at the parsonage at Jackson, and he was requested to make his home in Jackson; those signing the invitation were W. L. Nugent, M. A. Van Hook, A. G. Moore, W. A. Whiting, W. L. Hemingway, H. H. Hines, and George S. Green.

Our Schools—Commencements

The commencement exercises of the East Mississippi Female College were listed as follows: May 24-26, Examinations; May 26, 8 p.m., Operetta; May 28, Sermon by R. S. Woodward; May 28, 8 p.m, Anniversary, Christian Association; May 29, 11 a.m., Anniversary, Castalian Literary Society, address by Major J. J. Hood, Forest; May 29, 8 p.m., Anniversary Alumnae, Rev. J. W.

Harmon, speaker; May 30, Annual Concert; May 31, Commencement Address, Rev. E. S. Starr, Selma, Alabama.

The degrees conferred this year were: Misses Maud Massengale and Callie Morris, Quitman; Misses Julia Rothenberg and Nettie Collins, Meridian; Addie Miller and Clara Rushing, Walnut Grove; Attie Williams, Waynesboro; and Sallie Lyle, Selma, Alabama.

J. A. Godfrey was elected trustee in place of W. E. M. Linfield, deceased.

C. G. Andrews resigned as president of Centenary College on account of ill health. D. M. Rush was elected president *pro tem.*

C. K. Marshall was the commencement preacher at the University of Mississippi this year.

Miss Willie Streater, of Black Hawk, was elected teacher in East Mississippi Female College at Meridian.

The commencement exercises of Whitworth Female College this year found the institution in good condition. The sermon was preached by J. W. McLaurin, pastor at Brookhaven; the address to the Christian Association was given by T. A. S. Adams; the alumnae address was delivered by Charles B. Galloway; the commencement address was delivered by Governor Robert Lowry. H. F. Johnson was president and Robert Scott Ricketts was one of the teachers; Mrs. Lucy Kidd had charge of the boarding department. There were 200 pupils.

Port Gibson Collegiate Academy commencement consisted of a sermon by R. S. Woodward and an address by Hon. T. L. Mellen. The medals for neatness went to Cora Nesmith and Annie Baggett, while the medal for deportment went to A. Gordon. T. C. Bradford was the president in his first year.

Items of Interest

Rev. R. G. Porter, known as Gilderoy, was elected associate editor of *The Mississippi Methodist* published at Meridian, of which Rev. William Spillman was editor.

Four persons, without any consultation, sent W. L. C. Hunnicutt, presiding elder, Jackson District, fifty dolars for the work of J .W. Lambuth in China.

Judge David O. Shattuck, a former member of the Mississippi Conference and the Louisiana Conference, was now in California. He contributed the leading article in a late number of *The Pacific Methodist* on the Sunday Law. Although he was a veteran of more than eighty years, he wrote with the vigor and enthusiasm of youth. He was a former president of Centenary College.

J. H. Muse, Esq., contributed an excellent article about Judge Edward McGehee in the *Advocate* of March 16.

H. W. Featherstun was transferred from the Los Angeles Conference to the Pacific Conference and stationed at Sacramento. M. B. Sharbrough was appointed Sunday School Agent for the Pacific Conference and agent for *The Pacific Methodist.*

H. W. Featherstun, a transfer from the Mississippi Conference to the west, wrote: "Waifs from the Sunset Sea," in the March 23 issue of the *Advocate.*

Jared Watts, of Newton, had been a subscriber to the *Advocate* from its first number. This was no doubt true of the father of the writer, Rev. Ransom J. Jones, Sr., and the writer cannot remember when he did not have access to it.

A Wesleyan Society was organized at Brookhaven on December 4.

R. B. Downer, a former pastor in New Orleans, visited his friends in that city late in the year in behalf of the building fund at Scranton.

I. D. Wall, grandson of William Winans, retired from the ministry, voluntarily surrendering his credentials.

G. T. Vickers, a supernumerary minister, suffered an attack of smallpox at his home in Covington, Louisiana, this year.

It was reported that Dr. C. K. Marshall contemplated writing the life of Preston Cooper, a well-known minister and member of the Mississippi Conference who died in 1858.

Joseph Nicholson was pastor at Franklinton, Louisiana, in 1882 where he had been called to preach and entered the ministry in 1840. He suffered an attack of smallpox this year and spent two months at Ocean Springs.

The town of Monticello was destroyed by a cyclone on April 22, 1882. Many people were killed and every house but three was blown down, the Methodist church being destroyed also.

B. F. Jones and Miss Katie Linfield were united in marriage at Hazlehurst on May 17, with W. B. Lewis officiating. The young couple left next day for the parsonage at Caseyville, on the Scotland circuit of which he was pastor.

A. F. Watkins, a student at Vanderbilt for the past two years, served the Louisiana Avenue church in New Orleans during the summer.

W. R. Sims, pastor at Brandon, was elected professor at Vanderbilt.

Notes on Some Departed Ones

Mrs. Sarah Wall Kernan, wife of Judge W. F. Kernan and granddaughter of Wm. Winans, died in Clinton, La., on December 17, 1881. She was born near Jackson, Louisiana, February 28, 1835, and was baptized by Rev. Thomas Clinton.

On December 26, 1881, *Mrs. John A. Ellis,* whose husband had been agent of East Mississippi Female College and had just been appointed to Paulding, went to her eternal reward.

Mrs. Laura G. Carradine, wife of Beverly Carradine, passed away at Vicksburg. Her husband was pastor at Vicksburg one year prior to his transfer to the Louisiana Conference.

There were three deaths on the China Grove circuit: *Samuel Stewart, Mrs. Walter M. Lampton,* and *Jabez Yarborough.*

Mrs. Martha Ireland, the mother of John D. Ireland, who for forty years was the leading layman on the Washington charge, died near Natchez on February 5, 1882, age 58.

P. J. Eckles, a supernumerary of the North Mississippi Conference, died at his residence in Byhalia on March 27. He was for some time president of Sharon Female College in the Mississippi Conference.

Mrs. Eliza Bush Wasson, nee Copeland, was born in Green county, Georgia, August 12, 1809, and came to Mississippi about 1812. One of her several children was a local preacher. After she had reached the age of 70, she undertook to rear 12 orphan children, but she passed away, March 24, 1882, only three years after this great undertaking. She was the grandmother of L. P. Wasson of the North Mississippi Conference.

Mrs. W. T. J. Sullivan, whose husband was a teacher at the A & M College at Starkville, passed to her reward and was buried at Sharon, where she was reared, the funeral services being conducted by W. L. C. Hunnicutt, presiding elder, and H. R. Caldwell, the pastor. The daughter of John Magruder of Sharon, she was a native of Maryland.

Corydon Chamberlin, who began his ministry in Natchez, died at San Jose, California, on June 10. He was a member of the Mississippi Conference from 1861 to 1874, and was then transferred to the Pacific Conference and stationed at Sacramento City. He was pastor, presiding elder, and college president in California.

Mrs. Eliza Yandell Singleton, wife of Hon. O. R. Singleton, Congressman, died at their home in Canton on June 15, 1882.

Among the deaths on the Mount Carmel circuit, where B. S. Rayner was pastor, were *T. H. L. Caraway, John P. Loflin, James A. Blount, Henry Kirkham, Mrs. Harriett Carley,* and *Mrs. Susan Hathorn.*

Rev. O. H. P. Davis, a former member of the Conference, died suddenly on August 9, aged 68, and was buried in Goshen cemetery in Leake county. A native of Georgia, he joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1834 at Pleasant Grove, Madison county, Mississippi, under the ministry of Thomas Griffin. He was licensed to exhort in 1835 by J. I. E. Byrd, licensed to preach at Shiloh

Campground in 1847, and ordained deacon by Bishop Pierce in 1856. He joined the Congregational Methodist Church in 1859, and remained in that church until 1873 when he returned to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He served Thomastown in 1874 and Carthage in 1875, and then located. He married Mrs. Julia Mills in 1836, and Miss A. E. Hendricks in 1862.

During 1881, while T. S. West, presiding elder, Seashore District, was away on the district one of his children died and was buried before his return; again this year the second loss was sustained in the death of little Nellie, also while he was away, and he did not know that she had been taken until he reached home on his return trip.

On November 21 death called at the home of that princely layman, L. P. Brown, and summoned his wife, *Mollie P. Brown*, daughter of Dr. J. W. Harmon, to rest in her eternal home. L. P. Brown lived a long and useful life, departing this life in 1946, nearly 97 years old.

G. W. Ellis, father of G. R. Ellis of the Mississippi Conference, died at his home in Jackson county on November 24, 1882, aged 73. Born in Nottaway county, Virginia, he was the son of Fielding Ellis who lived to be 108 years old. G. W. Ellis was married in 1831 to Miss Ella Capers, daughter of Rev. Gabriel Capers and niece of Bishop Capers.

District Conferences

The *Seashore* District Conference was held at Pearlington, June 23-24, with Bishop Linus Parker presiding. The Bishop had just been elected to that office in May, and was already entering upon his episcopal duties. This was probably his first District Conference. The delegates elected to the Annual Conference were George Wood, Moss Point; Robert Babington, Franklinton; and J. W. Starr and J. P. Carter, Hattiesburg. Alternates were Henry Ware, Pass Christian; and Thomas Swift Ford, Columbia.

The *Woodville* District Conference met at Clinton, Louisiana, July 6, with D. A. Little, presiding elder. C. S. Stewart and W. F. Norsworthy were secretaries. A movement was launched for building a district parsonage at Clinton and also for the establishment of a campground. It is true, perhaps, that this was the first step in the set-up of Bluff Creek camp meeting which is still in existence in the Baton Rouge District.

The *Vicksburg* District Conference was held at Utica, July 14-15, with Bishop Parker presiding. I. D. Wall and T. L. Mellen were secretaries. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were E. S. Drake, Thomas Reed, Henry Key, and T. L. Mellen; alternates were D. X. Brown and H. F. West.

The *Meridian* District Conference was held at Meridian.

The *Jackson* District Conference was held at Madison. In the absence of the presiding elder, E. H. Mounger presided.

The *Brandon* District Conference met at Morton with Bishop Parker presiding. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were Irvin Miller, W. M. Thornton, A. G. Mayers and W. L. Weems; alternates were R. A. Tibbs and Jared Watts.

The delegates elected by the *Brookhaven* District Conference to the Annual Conference were J. Harvey Thompson, R. S. Ricketts, David McRee, and R. D. Wimberly; alternates were R. C. T. S. Hillard and J. E. Carruth.

Centenary College

C. G. Andrews having resigned as president of Centenary on account of his health, Rev. D. M. Rush, president pro tem, was elected president on July 5, and Samuel J. Jones, of New Orleans, was elected to the chair of Mathematics and Natural Science, formerly held by the new president; Rev. J. W. Lipscomb was elected to the chair of Modern Languages and Literature.

New Churches—Parsonages

Jackson was the recipient of $3,000 donated by the widow of the late Hon. W. L. Sharkey for the purpose of building a new church. Final services in the old Methodist church was held on July 9, at which time a history of the church, prepared by Thomas M. Green, was read by the pastor, Charles B. Galloway. On the next day, July 10, workmen began tearing down this church which had been erected in 1838. In September the cornerstone was laid for the new church, with 5,000 persons reported present. Of these, 600 were from Natchez, having made the first trip over the "Little J." Railroad. The former pastors present were C. K. Marshall, J. B. Walker, J. L. Forsyth, J. A. Godfrey, G. F. Thompson, W. B. Lewis, and C. B. Galloway.

A new Methodist church was in process of building in Pearlington this year.

There was an unfinished German church in Osyka.

A new church named Beulah was dedicated on North Wilkinson circuit where John W. Chambers was pastor. This church had 12 members, and the dedication sermon was preached by T. W. Brown.

The new church at Moss Point, the finest on the coast at that time, was completed in late August, except for seats and pulpit furniture, and was dedicated on Sunday, October 29, the sermon being preached by C. W. Carter, D.D., from II Chronicles 6:18. This was the fourth church building at Moss Point, including a school house; two ladies of the original membership were present.

W. W. Cammack, of Winchester circuit, reported that he had built two new churches and was arranging to build the third. This was the pastor's third year on his first circuit.

Gasque church in Smith county, south of Forest, was organized in 1882, but the church building was not erected until 1885. This was succeeded by another building in 1912. From this church have gone out Revs. W. H. Lane and Edward Marshall Lane. Dan Miller was the first pastor of Gasque, which was on the Trenton circuit at that time.

Revival Meetings—Reports

The revival at Wesson, W. W. Hopper, pastor, resulted in 35 additions to the church, 100 professing saving faith, and 25 professing to have received the blessing of perfect love.

A revival at Magnolia, J. T. Nicholson, pastor, continued for 19 days, resulting in 50 conversions and 36 accessions. Those assisting in the meeting were W. B. Lewis, J. W. McLaurin, J. H. Winborne, and C. F. Smith. The last named is at this writing (1946) a retired preacher living in Houston, Texas.

B. S. Rayner, pastor of Mount Carmel circuit, wrote: "We are just now entering a general revival. To this time we have had 55 accessions, and probably more than 100 conversions."

J. S. Calhoun, pastor of Cayuga circuit, wrote: "I have received 33 members and hope to receive many more before Conference."

The revival at Holmesville in August added 29 members and had 42 conversions.

A revival at Muddy Springs, J. T. Nicholson, pastor, added 35 members to the church.

W. W. Cammack, pastor of Winchester charge, said: "We have seven appointments and have held six protracted meetings, resulting in 25 conversions and 35 accessions. Seven adults and 13 infants have been baptized."

A report from D. Merchant, pastor of Chickasahay Mission, stated that that charge had 10 appointments, no parsonage, and no permanent home. He was boarding his family with Brothers Breland and D. S. Williams. The sum of $10.45 was paid the pastor during the first quarter.

Newton circuit, with George Bancroft as pastor, had six churches on the charge: Newton, Hickory, Garlandsville, Spring Hill, Hickman's Chapel, and Pleasant Grove.

A revival of the class meeting was reported at Brandon by W. R. Sims and was a success.

Camp Meetings

There were many camp meetings announced and held this year:

Topisaw, Friday before the second Sunday in August, W. B. Hines, pastor;
Crystal Springs, August 24, W. B. Lewis, pastor, I. V. Enochs, secretary;
Beech Springs, Friday before the second Sunday in August, John A. Vance, pastor;
Lake, Friday, July 28, I. L. Peebles, pastor;
Providence, Friday before the fifth Sunday, A. B. Nicholson, R. F. Crawford, committee;
St. Matthews, near Hickory, Thursday before the first Sunday in August, George Bancroft, pastor;
Mounger's Creek, north of State Line, August 22-27;
Seashore, July 12, W. H. Foster, president, P. Hallaron, secretary;
Andrew Chapel, DeSoto circuit, J. C. Brogan, pastor;
Trenton, to begin Friday, September 15;
China Grove, to begin Friday before the fourth Sunday;
Salem, East Pascagoula circuit, to begin October 5;
DeKalb circuit, Friday night before the second Sunday in October.

At the meeting at Crystal Springs there were 70 conversions and 38 accessions; at Andrew Chapel there were 29 conversions and 15 accessions.

Christian Keener, presiding elder, said: "Of the Seashore camp meeting the number of conversions, as near as we could estimate, is 60."

F. M. Williams wrote that the camp meeting at Mounger's Creek resulted in 21 accessions to the church and 35 conversions. The following ministers were present and did good service: James A. Godfrey, P. E., J. W. Adkisson, J. C. Brogan, W. W. Cammack, and S. D. Goff.

The pastor, J. C. Brogan, reported that the camp meeting at Union Campground, DeSoto circuit, was a grand success; there were 18 conversions and 14 accessions. There were two campgrounds on the circuit.

At the China Grove camp meeting, G. M. Gilmore, pastor, there were reported 80 conversions.

The New Prospect camp meeting, J. H. Holland, pastor, closed on October 30. There were 40 conversions and 24 accessions. The visiting ministers were T. S. West, P.E., R. B. Downer, Lyman Carley, and C. F. Gillespie; local preachers, W. G. Evans, A. Scarborough, A. P. Cox, James King, John A. Flurry, Ervin Roberts, and Lyman R. Roberts.

The camp meeting this year at Topisaw resulted in 46 additions and 50 conversions. The District Conference was held during the camp meeting. W. B. Hines was pastor.

There had been 350 additions to the membership of the Fannin circuit in four years.

Bishop Robert Paine

Death came to Bishop Robert Paine at his home in Aberdeen on October 19. His funeral sermon was preached by Bishop McTyeire. Bishop Paine had presided over the Mississippi Conference more than any other Bishop, nine times. He was a favorite in Mississippi, his adopted State.

He had reached the age of 82 years, 11 months, and 7 days, and was buried in Aberdeen. He was born November 12, 1799, in Person county, North Carolina, and was elected Bishop in 1846 at Petersburg, Virginia.

Board of Church Extension Organized

As the result of the report of the special committee on Church Extension, of which T. B. Holloman was chairman, the Mississippi Annual Conference Board of Church Extension was organized with the following officers and members: W. L. Nugent, president; W. C. Black, vice president; E. H. Mounger, secretary; J. W. Adkisson, treasurer; Geo. Wood, S. T. Taylor, T. B. Holloman, J. A. Ellis, and L. Carley, managers.

Rehoboth Parsonage

The former home of Dr. Buckley at Barlow was bought by Capt. T. J. Hargraves this year and remodeled as a Methodist parsonage. It is a solid and substantial building and will last for many years yet. Mrs. M. L. Matthews of Canton, the former Mary Goza of Barlow, gives the following reminiscences of the Barlow community and Rehoboth church:

"The preachers I remember best were D. F. Guice, J. W. Ellison, R. S. Gale, A. D. Miller, and Ira B. Robertson. Dr. C. W. Campbell was the community physician and also a local preacher and for a while pastor of the circuit. G. A. Smith was a local preacher and he and his wife, Sarah, were active members of Rehoboth church.

"Among the leading Methodists in the community were Captain and Mrs. T. J. Hargraves, Frank Hargraves and his wife, who was a Miss Brown of Hazlehurst, A. J. Wooten and his wife, J. A. Wooten and his wife, Maggie, J. E. Wooten and his family, the family of A. B. Weeks, J. M. Weeks and his wife, Kate, W. W. Bufkin and his large family of boys by his first wife and several girls by his last wife, who was Miss Georgia Herlong, my grandfather, H. F. Bufkin and his wife, Elizabeth, my father, B. F. Goza, who married Emma Bufkin, and all of our family, James M. Newton and Mrs. Jennie Newton and her mother, Dr. H. H. Barlow, who married Miss Kate Downer, daughter of Rev. R. B. Downer, whose son, Frank Barlow, has been State Senator from Copiah county in recent years, Mrs. Martha R. Goff, who was a leader in the community and her son, Matt Goff.

"Miss Carrie Hargraves was the organist at Rehoboth for many years. J. E. Matthews and his wife were Baptists, five of her uncles being Baptist preachers, but they joined at Rehoboth becouse there was no church of their denomination near. Most of her children became Methodists, including M. L. Matthews and his sister, Emma, who married H. H. Goza. Wesley and Sallie Leggett, parents of Rev. J. T. Leggett, were members of Rehoboth church and so was their well-known son before his admission into the Conference in 1889. There was also Albert Vardaman, father of Joe Vardaman and grandfather of Rev. J. B. Vardaman. There was William Allred and a large number of Allreds. J. Ben Smith and his wife, Agnes, belonged to a later generation as did John H. Green, who came into the community with his mother, Mrs. Ida Green.

"There was a large membership at Rehoboth and great numbers of people attended the services in those days."

CHAPTER XIV

1883

Conference at Crystal Springs

The Mississippi Annual Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was held in Crystal Springs, December 13-18, 1882, Bishop Alpheus W. Wilson presiding. The Bishop was elected at the General Conference meeting in Nashville, May 1-25, 1882, and this was his first Conference in Mississippi.

C. G. Andrews was elected Secretary; J. A. B. Jones, Assistant; W. R. Sims, Recording Secretary; J. W. McLaurin, Statistical Secretary.

Officers of the Boards were: *Sunday School:* J. M. Weems, President, S. B. Watts, Secretary, W. C. Black, Treasurer; *Education:* C. G. Andrews, President; T. L. Mellen, Vice-President; R. J. Jones, Secretary; *Church Extension:* W. L. Nugent, President; E. H. Mounger, Secretary; H. W. Adkisson, Treasurer; and *Joint Board of Finance:* R. D. Norsworthy, Chairman.

Admissions, Transfers, Ordinations, etc.

Admitted on Trial: William G. Backus, from the East Pascagoula circuit; Virgil D. Skipper, from the Dekalb circuit; and Henry Lee Scarborough, from the Mount Olivet circuit.

Received by Transfer: Gabriel Hawkins, from the Alabama Conference; and John W. Harmon, from the Louisiana Conference.

Admitted into full connection: N. M. Clark and W. R. Sims.

Located: Green W. Brown.

Superannuated: T. Y. Armstrong, A. B. Stewart, and C. W. Calhoun were the new superannuates at this Conference session.

Supernumerary: Richard Abbey, Ambrose M. Barrington, John Lusk and Geo. T. Vickers.

Ordained Deacons: James Healey, H. L. Scarborough, C. F. Smith, and Joseph W. Hall, local preachers.

Ordained elder: B. F. Jones, R. F. Flowers, and I. L. Peebles, traveling preachers; and T. W. Adams, local preacher.

Committee on Examination

The Committee on Examination was made up of some of our fathers who long since have gone to their rest, and we here give their names in grateful memory of their labors and influence:

Admission on Trial	B. Jones, J. A. Ellis, J. P. Drake
First Year	W. B. Lewis, W. D. Dominick, J. M. Weems
Second Year	D. M. Rush, C. McDonald, L. Carley
Third Year	C. B. Galloway, R. J. Jones, J. W. McLaurin
Fourth Year	C. G. Andrews, W. C. Black, E. H. Mounger

Board of Education

The Board of Education, elected by the Conference, was as follows:

Brandon District	R. J. Jones and A. G. Mayers
Meridian District	J. W. Harmon and L. P. Brown
Brookhaven District	W. B. Hines and R. S. Ricketts
Jackson District	C. B. Galloway and H. H. Hines
Seashore District	T. S. West and J. P. Carter
Woodville District	C. G. Andrews and G. H. Wiley
Vicksburg District	R. S. Woodward and T. L. Mellen

Officers were: President, C. G. Andrews; Vice-President, T. L. Mellen; and Secretary, Ransom J. Jones.

Some Interesting Items

Bishop Wilson spent the Sunday after Conference, December 24, 1882, in Jackson, preaching morning and night; he was the guest of Col. W. L. Nugent, a great lawyer as well as a great

Methodist, who was the Sunday School superintendent for several decades.

Vanderbilt University, in the theological department, at Wesley Hall, had a New Year dinner, in which A. F. Watkins, a student from Mississippi, was one of the speakers.

B. S. Rayner, presiding elder, employed G. W. Brown to supply the Westville circuit and S. S. Moore to supply the Enon circuit.

John Lusk was appointed to supply the Cayuga circuit, made vacant by the death of Rev. J. S. Calhoun, but failed to take the work and E. A. Flowers served the remainder of the year.

A. F. Watkins received the degree of B.A. at Vanderbilt University, and supplied Kingston circuit.

James M. Gann was released from the Brandon District on account of ill health, and F. M. Williams was appointed presiding elder in his place.

Interesting "Reminiscences" by H. J. Harris appeared in the *Advocate* during the year on Rankin circuit, Centenary College, and Shiloh campground in 1842, the faculty of Centenary College, in 1842, and Covington circuit.

Conference Evangelist

At the Conference of 1882 W. W. Hopper was appointed Sunday School and Tract Agent, from the Brookhaven District. He seems not to have done any Sunday School work, but rather gave his time and employed his talents in evangelistic work in the Conference, holding revivals; this was new and probably marks the beginning of paid evangelism, which has now become church-wide.

John Stewart Calhoun

John Stewart Calhoun, one of the younger ministers of the Conference, 30 years old, and pastor at Cayuga, died there in Hinds county on February 11, 1883.

Born in Clark county, Alabama, he was the son of John and Sallie Calhoun, who were deeply religious and had a consecrated family altar; in their Christian home three sons were reared and gave themselves to the ministry as itinerants in the service of the church. John Stewart was distinguished for his integrity of character and fidelity to duty, even from his childhood; he was converted in his early youth, and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in 1868, and felt the call to preach which he could not avoid.

His training in school for his work was received at Centenary Institute, at Summerfield, Alabama. Licensed to preach in September 1875, he was admitted into the Mississippi Conference in 1879. He married Miss Permelia Chapman on September 26 of that year. His first four years of service were on the West Pascagoula circuit, which he served well. He had just entered his second year on the Cayuga circuit when he was called to cease his earthly labors and to enter upon his eternal reward, thus closing the life of an effective preacher, a revivalist who won many souls to Christ, a man of no guile, gentle and affectionate. He left a wife and three little children to mourn his loss. Mrs. Calhoun lived until 1932.

Ambrose M. Barrington

Ambrose M. Barrington, who had been granted a supernumerary relation by the Conference in 1881, moved to Florida in January 1883, but died before he reached his destination, passing away at Bay Port, Florida, on March 20. Born in Rutherford county, Tennessee, April 4, 1820, he was converted in a camp meeting held by the Cumberland Presbyterians in 1844, united with the Methodist Church, and was licensed to preach the same year. He joined the Arkansas Conference, and was ordained deacon by Bishop Paine in 1846 and elder by Bishop Andrews in 1848, and the same year married Mrs. R. M. Lyons, a highly cultured and very helpful assistant in his work. At the close of 1849 he was located at his own request, because of the poor health of his family, as well as for financial reasons. He was graduated in medicine and preached acceptably as a local preacher. Moving to Mississippi he joined the Memphis Conference in 1857; when the Conference was divided he remained in the North Mississippi Conference; in 1875 he was transferred to the Mississippi Conference; he was a useful worker in each of the Conferences.

Some of the Departed

G. R. Capers, in a letter dated Pass Christian, January 30, 1883, announced the death of his brother, *Major W. C. Capers,* aged 64, who was born in South Carolina, and was a nephew of Bishop Capers. He had lived in Mississippi a number of years.

Humphrey Williamson, formerly of the Mississippi Conference, now a retired member of the North Mississippi Conference, died near Greenwood, February 2, 1883, aged 79.

Mrs. D. C. Langford, wife of Rev. D. C. Langford, whom she married November 16, 1865, died at the parsonage home at Lauderdale on February 13; she was Martha Foster, daughter of John H. Foster, born near Satartia, March 2, 1844.

Mrs. George D. McCormick, who was Celia Millsaps before she married Judge Henry Mounger, December 22, 1836, the mother of Dr. E. H. Mounger, died near Vossburg, not far from Paulding on February 15, aged 68, and was buried at Paulding by the side of her first husband. Born in Perry county in 1815, she was the daughter of Judge Uriah Millsaps, who was for many years a citizen of Jasper county. After the death of her first husband she married George D. McCormick. She was the mother of nine children.

Rev. Daniel De Vinne, the secretary and last surviving member of the Conference at John McRae's in 1822, died at the age of 90, a member of the New York East Conference. He was admitted into the Mississippi Conference in 1820, and was transferred to the New York Conference in 1824.

The death of *Mrs. Sarah Lane,* daughter of Newitt Vick and widow of John Lane, at Vicksburg, at the age of 90, claimed the oldest citizen of Warren county. Her father had been dead since 1819, and her husband since 1855.

Rev. George Clare Armstrong, a local elder who was one of the founders of Belle Grove church in 1840, died in Jefferson county on March 31, aged 70. A native of that county, he united with the church on September 11, 1838, and was converted on October 4. He married Miss Amanda Salome Guice on April 23, 1843. As recording steward he wrote up the minutes of the Fayette quarterly conference, now in our historical collection, copying an earlier record written by R. B. Ricketts, the father of Professor R. S. Ricketts.

George Wood died in Moss Point on April 18, age 71. Born in Connecticut, he studied for the ministry, but feeble health prevented his pursuing that course. He came to Mississippi in 1840, to Green county in 1853, and to Moss Point in 1866. He was appointed Chancellor in 1876. He was twice married—to Miss Mariah Sage in 1841, and to Mrs. E. A. Bestor in 1868.

Mrs. Inman Williams, a sister of Rev. Preston Cooper, the father of Inman W. Cooper of the Mississippi Conference who was named for her husband, died in Chattanooga. She left a legacy of one hundred dollars to the Mississippi Conference Missionary Society.

R. C. T. S. Hilliard, the recording steward of Providence circuit, from Bahala Chapel church, and a trustee of Whitworth College, passed to his reward this year.

Chauncy Stevens died at the residence of his son, Benjamin Stevens, at Augusta, Mississippi, on March 26, 1883, aged 90. Born in Berkshire county, Massachusetts, he came to Jackson county when he was 28, and served several terms as Sheriff. He was twice married; the only son of his first wife died in the Mexican War. He married Miss Lucy Ferrill, March 20, 1825, and to them were born five sons and four daughters. He was the grandfather of the noted Stevens family of Augusta, of whom Judge J. Morgan Stevens is the last surviving.

Mrs. John G. Jones died at Hazlehurst on July 14 and was buried at Port Gibson. Born at Beech Hill, Jefferson county, February 15, 1808, she was Jane Oliphant Ross, daughter of Col. Ely K. and Elizabeth Ross. Marrying Rev. John G. Jones on August 13, 1828, she rode with him on horseback from Western Louisiana to Warren county.

Rev. Lewis R. Featherstun died at Yuba, California, Friday, October 19. The widow and children arrived in New Orleans on November 5, with Rev. H. W. Featherstun and his family. Mrs. J. T. Leggett is a daughter of Rev. L. R. Featherstun.

Mrs. Katie C. Peebles, wife of Isaac Lockhart Peebles, pastor at Lake, died on November 22, 1883, aged 29, leaving her husband and one little son.

Destruction by Storm

On April 22, 1883, a tornado struck with much force the towns of Wesson, Beauregard, and Georgetown. At Georgetown the church was destroyed; and H. P. Lewis, the pastor of the Providence circuit, was injured, and Jack Savage was killed. Injured also were Mrs. Pallie Steele, Robert Berry, Mrs. C. B. Allen, C. B. Allen, the Allen son, Mr. Marshall, Mrs. J. H. Catchings, Mrs. J. A. B. Jones. According to the report by J. A. B. Jones, presiding elder, just after the group reached the home of Hon. J. H. Catchings the storm that destroyed Wesson and Beauregard passed by. This was just one year after Monticello was destroyed.

Woman's Missionary Conference

The Conference met at Madison, April 5, 1883, with Mrs. E. R. Stedman, vice-president, in the chair; Miss Sallie Gibbs of Raymond was secretary. Two new societies were organized during the year: Beauregard and Burtonton. The new Conference officers were elected:

Miss Jemmie Petty, Meridian, President; Mrs. E. R. Stedman, Mrs. C. G. Andrews, Mrs. Anna Middleton, Mrs. Benjamin Jones, Mrs. J. M. Weems, Mrs. Bettie Parker, Mrs. S. B. Watts, Vice-Presidents
Miss Sallie Gibbs, Raymond, Recording Secretary
Miss Annie Linfield, Hazlehurst, Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Annie DeMoss, Vicksburg, Treasurer
Mrs. James Ware, Vicksburg, Auditor

Commencements—Schools and Colleges

Announcement was made that Rev. Felix R. Hill, of New Orleans, would preach the commencement sermon at Whitworth College. Ground was broken for the $20,000 building at Whitworth, with addresses by Harvey F. Johnson, president, and Judge Chrisman, and members of the graduating class. Lieutenant-Governor Shands delivered the commencement address. Inman W. Cooper preached the commencement sermon at Hiwassee College in May. On May 31 this college gave the degree of Doctor of Divinity to Wm. H. Leith, formerly of this Conference. C. G. Andrews preached the commencement sermon at East Mississippi Female College, May 27, and Governor Robert Lowry delivered the address on May 30.

J. W. Adkisson was elected a professor at Southern University; C. G. Andrews was tendered the presidency of East Mississippi Female College, but declined; and Rev. A. D. McVoy of the North Mississippi Conference was elected president. Rev. W. E. Ballard of Port Gibson was elected principal of the Lexington High School in the North Mississippi Conference. Hardie Brown, a former member of the Mississippi Conference, was elected president of Southern University, Greensboro, Alabama.

The Church at Kingston

Kingston was the site of the formation of the first Protestant church in the territory now called Mississippi, and the second Methodist church. Lorenzo Dow bought the lot in 1803 by selling his watch; the present church building was erected in 1856, a most beautiful one, built of brick, with the gallery over the front for the negro slaves. The writer has had the pleasure of preaching and holding quarterly conference there. It is sacred ground.

On June 16, 1883, A. F. Watkins, supply, preached his first sermon as pastor. Mrs. Martha Farrar writes, "Last Sabbath, June 16, we listened to the first sermon preached by Rev. A. F. Watkins, son of the late Rev. W. H. Watkins, at Kingston Methodist Church. How beautiful to see this child of God following his father's footprints, standing where his father stood years ago, in the same altar, arguing the same cause."

New Churches—Dedications

The church at *Bogue Chitto* was first organized in 1882, and services were held in the Masonic Hall, S. J. Cotton being the first pastor; but in 1883 the first church building was erected, valued at $1,500; the first parsonage was bought in 1908, Dan E. Kelly being the first pastor to live in it.

Wesley Chapel, Natchez, was dedicated on June 17, 1883, the sermon being preached by Charles B. Galloway; the cost of the building was $1,540. The project was inaugurated by W. C. Black, pastor at Natchez, and the church was to be served by T. L. Mellen.

Big Rock church on the Winchester circuit was dedicated on September 27, 1883, by the Rev. W. W. Cammack.

A new church, *Mount Moriah,* was dedicated on the Mt. Carmel circuit on Sunday, December 9. This is the present Silver Creek church.

The Illinois Central Railroad brought the pews from Chicago free of charge for the new church at Jackson.

China Mission—J. W. Lambuth

Twenty-five dollars was sent for the China Mission by Robert Babington of Franklinton in memory of his son, who had died suddenly.

A letter from J. W. Lambuth stated that in 1883 there were 10 foreign missionaries, 11 foreign ladies, and 15 native preachers and exhorters in our work in China. In other letters he gives a list of all Methodist workers in China, both foreign and native, prior to his going there in 1854 and after that time till 1883.

A letter from Dr. Walter Lambuth to Rev. D. C. Kelly, whose daughter he had married, advised the latter that they reached Shanghai from America, by way of Alexandria and Suez, on November 2, 1882, and adds,

> "Upon reaching the wharf we found father and Nora awaiting us, and it was not long before we were all enjoying the rest—the long desired rest of a Christian home. Thus we settled down for an interval of ten days, this time to be utilized in preparing for life in the interior."

It will be remembered that J. W. Lambuth had returned to China in 1881, with his wife and daughter, Nora, who later became Mrs. W. H. Park.

The Church at Biloxi

Rev. W. M. Jordan, a local preacher of Biloxi, writes: "Our church has a living history on this coast, dating back to 1842. In that year the Rev. G. Y. McNabb of the Mississippi Conference, by invitation of a few Methodists who had been converted at different places, preached the first sermon in Biloxi. To his great surprise and joy seven presented themselves for membership. Of that number the writer is the only one left this side of the flood."

Camp Meetings

Announcements of many camp meetings were made. We give some of the announcements of meetings:

Beech Springs, second Sunday in September: *Hennington,* August 16; *Topisaw,* second Sunday in August; *Seashore,* July 11; *Providence,* July 27; *Lake,* fifth Sunday in July; *St. Matthews,* four miles and a half southwest of Hickory, to embrace the third

Sunday in August; *China Grove,* to embrace the third Sunday in September; *Salem,* second Sunday in October; *Trenton,* fourth Sunday in September; *Andrew's Chapel,* September 7; *Mounger's Creek,* near State Line, October 3; *New Hope,* eight miles from DeKalb, October 11; *Union,* fifteen miles east of Quitman, October 19; *New Prospect,* fourth Sunday in October; *Shiloh,* October 10.

H. J. Harris, in his reminiscences of *Pearlington* circuit in 1841, says that in August of 1841 there was a camp meeting held in the Evans settlement, eight or nine miles back from Mississippi City. It is presumed that this was not far from the locality of the present site of Coalville. One of the supporters of the meeting was Col. John McCaughan, said to be skeptical on religion, but he was a friend of H. J. Harris in his boyhood. At this meeting, "Charlie McGrath" professed conversion and was licensed to preach the next year. He later became a member of the notorious Copeland Clan and murdered Bob Lott, who kept a ferry on Black Creek in Marion county, now in Lamar county.

The *Palmer Creek* camp meeting was established in September 1883. The pastor, C. F. Gillespie, wrote: "We have determined to have a camp meeting on Whittington circuit. The camp has been located on Palmer Creek, eighteen miles north of Handsboro. The time for the meeting has been fixed, embracing the fifth Sunday in September. The shed is being erected, tent building will begin soon." This meeting was held September 27-October 2. J. J. Cowart donated the ground and much lumber; there were eight tents with 20 families; the tabernacle was 40x50 feet; and $1,200 had been spent on it. The preachers were: B. S. Rayner, presiding elder; C. F. Gillespie, pastor; A. B. Nicholson, R. B. Downer, and J. M. Weems; W. G. Evans, S. D. Goff, James King, L. R. Jordon, and A. Scarborough, local preachers. There were 45 conversions reported.

There was much discussion and some dissatisfaction over the matter of admission to the grounds of the Seashore camp meeting.

The rates were: Over twelve years: season ticket, 50 cents: per day, 25 cents; six to twelve years old: season ticket, 25 cents; per day, 10 cents; under six years old: free. At this camp meeting were some distinguished visitors: Dr. J. B. McFerrin, Col. C. P. Atmore, general passenger agent of the L & N Railroad, and Hon. Jefferson Davis, who was president of the Confederacy, and was a friend of Bishop Keener and was entertained in the Bishop's tent. Bishop Linus Parker and his son, Franklin N. Parker, were also present, and dined with President Davis and Bishop Keener.

Announcement was made also that gate fees would be charged at Crystal Springs, and all collections abolished. The Editor of the Conference Organ said, "That method of raising campmeeting revenues is being generally adopted." The rates were 25 cents for all persons under twelve; ministers, and any visitors who did not have the money, were admitted free.

District Conferences

The Seashore District Conference decided to build a district parsonage at Gordon on the line of the railroad from Meridian to New Orleans, but this was never done. The delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: J. W. Starr, Robert Babington, H. C. Vaughan, and W. C. Warren.

The Brandon District Conference was held at Newton and was called to order by J. M. Gann, who was being relieved of his duties on account of ill health, and F. M. Williams, his successor, took the chair. The delegates were elected to the Annual Conference as follows: Irvin Miller, W. J. Bell, W. M. Thornton, J. F. Moore; alternates, W. L. Weems and John Warren.

The delegates elected by the Jackson District Conference were: W. L. Nugent, George Harvey, Rev. W. A. Ray, and J. J. Birdsong. The Conference met at Canton, W. L. C. Hunnicutt, presiding elder; H. R. Singleton, pastor.

At the Woodville Conference the delegates elected to the Annual Conference were: L. Z. Gowan, G. T. McGehee, W. B. Raiford, and H. C. Newsom; alternates, C. E. McLean and A. P. Smith.

The Meridian Conference was held at Shubuta. The delegates elected to the Annual Conference: Col. R. C. Clark, Rev. R. H. Kennedy, John Rowzee, and M. C. Shell; alternates, Capt. T. B. Dykes and W. S. Lagrone.

The Vicksburg Conference met at Port Gibson. The delegates elected to the Annual Conference: G. J. Bahin, John G. Guice, T. A. Holloman, and T. L. Mellen; alternates, J. R. Bell, A. C. Flowers, H. F. West and J. M. Simmons.

Other Items

Major R. W. Millsaps, who lived in St. Louis at this time but was long a leading merchant and influential citizen of Brookhaven and Jackson, made a trip to Europe this year.

The Seashore Campground had been without adequate train facilities, but it was announced that on and after July 9, 1883, all trains over the Louisville and Nashville Railroad would stop at the Grounds both ways.

Some of the circuits were extensive in territory and service. The nine Sunday Schools on the Brandywine circuit held a joint session at Sarepta. The appointments on the Lake circuit numbered six: Lake, Lawrence, Centerville, Pleasant Valley, Carr's Church, and High Hill.

When F. M. Williams was appointed to succeed J. M. Gann as presiding elder, B. F. Lewis was appointed to succeed him on the Forest and Morton charge.

Two new railroads through the territory of the Mississippi Conference (the New Orleans and North Eastern, now a part of the Southern, and the Yazoo and Mississippi Valley, a part of the Illinois Central System) reached New Orleans within two days of each other in October 1883. The Editor of the *Advocate* predicted that the railroads would have a great influence on the church in Mississippi.

Two children of the late Rev. Hervie Copeland, a son and a daughter, came up from British Honduras to enter Centenary and Whitworth Colleges.

Dr. E. W. Herndon, Editor of the *Christian Quarterly Review*, and Miss Kate Winans, daughter of Col. Wesley P. Winans, and granddaughter of Dr. William Winans, were married at Columbia, Missouri.

Mrs. J. S. Calhoun, whose husband died February 11, 1883, and her children were carried by relatives to the home of her childhood at Grove Hill, Alabama. She lived until 1932, thus surviving her preacher husband by nearly half a century.

Henry P. Lewis, who had lived in his own house in Holmesville, moved to Tryus, his first move in 12 years; he had served nearby charges from his home.

The New Orleans Christian Advocate offered a prize of an organ to the one who secured the largest list of subscribers, and J. Perry Drake, pastor at Fayette, was awarded the organ.

Malachi B. Sharbrough was married to Miss Alice Frazer July 8 at Elmire, California, by Rev. J. M. Allanson.

The New Editor of the *Advocate*

Charles B. Galloway, who succeeded Linus Parker, elected Bishop, as editor of the Conference Organ, was showing a fair spirit in his editorial writings. He defended Gen. Ben. Butler against charges he did not believe to be true, spoke out freely against the narrow-mindedness of other denominations, and denounced the liquor traffic and those who advocated it.

Discussion of a New College

There was an extended discussion of the question of a new college in Mississippi for men, led by T. A. S. Adams on one side and by various writers on the other. Many were on the negative side who later were leaders in establishing Millsaps College.

CHAPTER XV

1884

Conference at Natchez

Bishop Hubbard Hinde Kavanaugh presided over the Conference at Natchez, December 12-18, 1883. He was now nearly 81 years of age, and died on March 19, 1884.

The secretaries remained the same, except T. W. Adams was elected recording secretary. R. A. Young, secretary of the General Missionary Board, was the only connectional officer present, although a number of other preachers were introduced to the Conference.

Admission

There were five *admitted on trial:* Benjamin F. Lewis, Mark H. Moore, Alexander F. Watkins, Charles W. Scott, and Thomas L. Mellen.

Seven were admitted into *full connection:* James Healey, Robert F. Witt, Edward F. Edgar, Andrew D. Miller, D. Fernando Guice, Thomas W. Adams in elder's orders, and Martin Anding Bell.

The following were received *by transfer* from other Conferences: H. Walter Featherstun, from the Pacific Conference; Henry J. Harris, from North Texas; H. D. Howell and A. D. McVoy, from North Mississippi; and Jules V. Penn, in the first year from Louisiana.

Ordinations

Martin Anding Bell, traveling preacher, was ordained *deacon;* and the following local preachers were ordained deacons: Mark H. Moore, William G. Backus, and Alexander F. Watkins. Lyman

R. Roberts and Gabriel R. Ellis were also elected deacons, but were not present to be ordained.

John W. Chambers, Mager C. Callaway, Joseph T. Nicholson, and W. Warren Cammack, traveling preachers, were ordained *elders.*

Locations, etc.

W. W. Hopper, D. Merchant, and R. F. Flowers *located.*

Levi T. Jones was *discontinued.*

Centenary Fund and Program

The Conference organized a Centenary Committee with C. G. Andrews, chairman, H. H. Hines, secretary and treasurer. John G. Jones was appointed to preach the centennial sermon at the next session. The Conference resolved that the money received during the centennial year for education be placed in the hands of the Conference Board of Education as an endowment fund, belonging to Whitworth College, East Mississippi Female College, Port Gibson Female College and Centenary College, unless the donors should give specific directions. Also that a Centenary Fund of $60,000 be raised to be appropriated equally to foreign missions, the Church Extension Loan Fund, and to education.

During the year *The Advocate* of September 18, 1884, reported more than $200,000 collected on the Centenary fund in territory served by *The Advocate.* The largest single gift in our Conference was that of Dr. H. F. Johnson who gave a building valued at $20,000 to Whitworth College.

Churches Aided by Church Extension

This Conference of 1883 witnessed the first report of churches aided by the New Conference Board of Church Extension. A total of $375 was donated to three churches, as follows: Bogue Chitto, $50; Scranton, $200; and Mizpah (Fayette circuit), $125.

Deaths Noted During This Year

Mrs. Mary A. Edgar, the mother of Rev. E. F. Edgar, passed to her reward early in the year.

Rev. James S. Harris, formerly a member of the Mississippi Conference, died at his home near Phoenix in Yazoo county.

Mrs. C. W. Calhoun, widow of Rev. C. W. Calhoun who had died in 1883, also passed to her reward, from Moss Point.

Mrs. Mary Gale Stuart, mother of Mrs. J. W. Harmon and widow of Col. James D. Stuart, died at Waynesboro on January 10 and was buried at Baton Rouge. She was the grandmother of Revs. Nolan B. Harmon, Sr., and G. S. Harmon.

Mrs. Mary Ann Osborn Johnson, who was born near Waterproof, Louisiana, in 1807 and married Rev. William B. Johnson in 1830, died near Fayette on January 10, 1884. She was the grandmother of Mrs. T. M. Dye, of Clarksdale, and the great-grandmother of Rev. T. M. Dye, Jr., of the Mississippi Conference.

Professor A. B. Starke, a former president of Port Gibson College, died at Altona, Florida.

Daniel Willis died at his home in Claiborne county on May 23, aged 81. He had lived in the county since 1806 and was one of the pioneers among Methodists in the Southwest. He was the grandfather of Mrs. Charles B. Galloway, who was Harriett Willis.

The death of *Mrs. Jefferson Hamilton,* wife of the Rev. Jefferson Hamilton and the grandmother of Dr. A. P. Hamilton, of Millsaps College, was reported in July.

Hon. Price Williams, a trustee of the Seashore Campground, died on November 11.

Mrs. Ella Colmer, daughter of John and Sarah Calhoun and sister of Revs. J. S. and C. W. Calhoun, died at Moss Point on October 23, aged 27. She married Charles Colmer on May 14, 1877.

Rev. Daniel McDonald was born in Chesterfield District, South Carolina, March 20, 1805; he joined the church when 17, was licensed to preach when 21, and he was ordained a deacon in 1853;

he was transferred from South Carolina in 1855, and located in 1860. He died on December 5, and his funeral was conducted by Rev. Irvin Miller.

Dr. Augustin F. Magruder, son of Major John H. Magruder, died on December 14, aged 53, and was buried at Yazoo City. Born in Claiborne county, December 14, 1831, he graduated at Louisville Medical College in 1855. He married Julia, daughter of Rev. Richard Abbey, May 2, 1855, and to them were born nine sons and one daughter; among them were L. A. Magruder, late of Yazoo City, W. W. Magruder of Starkville, and Mrs. E. C. Cropper, of Columbia and Gulfport.

Mrs. Jane Robertson, the mother of Rev. Ira B. Robertson, died in Jefferson county on November 27, 1884, aged 81. Born in Maury county, Tennessee, in 1821 she married John J. Robertson, a local Methodist preacher and for a short while a member of this Conference. They had 10 children. She joined the Spring Hill church and was baptized by Rev. Bevil Tabor. She and her husband instituted a watch night service on New Year's Eve, 1821, which was still observed in 1928. Their old home was still standing near Fayette in 1946.

Dr. C. C. Marshall died at Hazlehurst on December 15. Born at Spring Ridge in Hinds county, he joined the Spring Ridge church at the age of ten. He married Miss Amanda P. Black in 1869. His son, Charles Marshall, lived for many years at Hazlehurst.

Miss Maggie Lake, a member of Whitworth College faculty, died at the home of her father, Hon. Levin Lake, in Oxford on December 16, 1884.

Born in China—A Future Bishop

J. W. Lambuth addressed a letter to the Editor of the *Advocate* in which he said:

> "Mr. Editor: I will write only a few words to say our annual meeting has just closed. We have had a most pleasant session. The Lord was with

us, and the Spirit of God seemed to rest upon us all, and we felt greatly blessed. We thank God for such a glorious manifestation of his goodness to us on this occasion. We have just returned home, and I have been very busy today getting preachers ready and off for their work the coming year. I will write you a longer letter by the next mail, and tell you something of the work of the past year. Pray for us, and believe me your brother in Christ."

J. W. LAMBUTH

Shanghai, China, Jan. 22, 1884.

In another letter he said:

"On November 10, 1854, God gave to us our first-born—a son. We named him Walter Russell Thornton, and our earnest prayer was that the Lord might bless him, and make him a useful member of his church, and a blessing to many others."

This son was elected Bishop in 1910, died September 26, 1921, and was buried at Shanghai, China, after a life as a missionary for the most part, following in the footsteps of his sainted father.

Facts of Interest

Rev. R. H. Rivers, a former president of Centenary College, was selected by the family to write a biography of Bishop Robert Paine.

The home of C. G. Andrews in Vicksburg was burned on December 27, 1883, with all personal belongings, including the manuscript journal of the Mississippi Conference from 1813 to 1883 inclusive.

A letter from M. B. Sharbrough in California to Charles B. Galloway, editor, said, "I enjoy the *Advocate* greatly under your administration. Alive to all the living issues of the day, you make a live paper. It is not only alive but strong."

Comparing the town of Hattiesburg of that day with the City of Hattiesburg of this day (1949), it seems strange that an appeal could be made by the pastor, I. L. Peebles, for help in building a church at that place. Benton S. Rayner, presiding elder, was reported as occupying the new Seashore District parsonage at Hattiesburg.

F. M. Featherstun, formerly of the Mississippi Conference, now in the Pacific Conference, was the recipient of the degree of D.D. from Hiwassee College. Dr. J. H. Brunner was elected president of the college.

The Y & M V Railroad was making progress in building its lines. It was reported that trains would run from New Orleans as far as Leland, Mississippi, by way of Baton Rouge, Port Gibson, and Vicksburg, by July 15, 1884.

J. W. Ellison, well versed on the matter of the form of baptism, a strong advocate of the Methodist way, issued a booklet on the subject, entitled, "The Lost Key Found." He was the grandfather of Rev. A. M. Ellison, of the Mississippi Conference. The writer, a student at Millsaps College, was present when this old saint laid down the cross to take up the crown, September 12, 1895, nearing midnight, and spent the entire night in waiting around the bedside and in preparation for his burial, in company with Dr. James Adolphus Moore, professor of Mathematics at Millsaps.

The Centennial Celebration of American Methodism was held at Baltimore, and it was attended by Dr. Chas. B. Galloway, Dr. C. K. Marshall, and Lieutenant Governor G. D. Shands.

Bishop Isaac W. Wiley held the Methodist Episcopal Conference for the colored people in Jackson, and was the guest of Chas. B. Galloway.

It was reported on August 28 that "*A Centennial Retrospect*, or Methodism in Natchez, from 1799 to 1884," by W. C. Black, had gone to press and would be sold for twenty-five cents per copy.

Bishop Kavanaugh

Bishop Kavanaugh and his wife spent 10 days in February at Ocean Springs in an effort to recover his health. The Bishop died on March 19, 1884, and late in the year Mrs. Kavanaugh visited in New Orleans on her way to Petaluma, California, to make her home. She was a former student of Elizabeth Academy, Washington, Mississippi, probably the oldest school for girls in the world conferring degrees.

The following account of the last visit of Bishop Kavanaugh to Mississippi is from the gifted pen of C. G. Andrews:

> "Our last association with Bishop Kavanaugh was on Christmas eve, 1883. We had invited a few congenial spirits to meet him and Mrs. Kavanaugh in the 'hired house' which we were using as a presiding elder's parsonage. (The very next night the dwelling was consumed, with our entire stock of personal effects, including the ministerial labors of twenty-six years, together with the manuscript records of the Mississippi Conference since 1813.) The Bishop was in his happiest mood, abandoning himself to the enjoyment of the hour, showing a deep interest in all that was going on, and delighting the company by his sparkling conversation and entertaining anecdotes. He conducted worship before leaving us with a fervid simplicity, with impressive earnestness, and with tearful pathos."

A more intimate account of his last journey through the territory of the Mississippi Conference is contained in a letter from Mrs. Kavanaugh, the former Martha Richardson of Monroe, Louisiana, who was educated at Elizabeth Academy:

> "From Augusta, Georgia, we proceeded to Jackson, Mississippi, on invitation from our much-prized editor of *The New Orleans Christian Advocate.* Here, too, we were met and taken to the hospitable homes of some of our choicest Christian people.
>
> "From Jackson we went direct to Natchez, the seat of the Mississippi Conference. To me this was a visit of great interest, for it was my first return to a city I had passed through in the year 1827, on my way to Washington, six miles from Natchez, where I spent some years at school whilst Brother B. M. Drake was president of that academy. At this Conference I was permitted to meet the venerable wife of that sainted man to whom I was indebted for most of the Christian character that has been my safeguard through life. . . .
>
> "From Natchez we proceeded to Vicksburg, Mississippi, spending several very pleasant days with the kind families of that choice circle of friends,

> mingling alike with Presbyterians and Methodists, the bishop preaching in the pulpits of each. . . .
>
> "We left New Orleans for Ocean Springs on the 12th of February. From invitation from Colonel W. R. Stuart we had promised a visit to that most interesting couple, Colonel Stuart and his precious wife. We were welcomed as in the bosom of near and dear relations; a reserved room given us, with every comfort we could ask."

On Sunday, February 17, Bishop Kavanaugh attempted to preach in the church at Ocean Springs, but after announcing his text he was overcome with weakness and turned the service over to Rev. Joseph Nicholson. After ten days under the care of a physician at the hospitable home of Colonel Stuart, the Bishop and Mrs. Kavanaugh left for Columbus, Mississippi, where the bishop passed away.

The Woman's Missionary Society

The Society at Enterprise was organized in February 1884. The Woman's Missionary Conference was held at Brandon, April 17-18, 13 out of 21 auxiliaries were represented, and five conference officers were present. The conference officers were:

President	Miss Jemmie Petty
Vice Presidents:	
Jackson District	Mrs. P. A. Johnston
Vicksburg District	Mrs. C. G. Andrews
Brookhaven District	Mrs. E. D. Jones
Meridian District	Mrs. Bettie Parker
Woodville District	Mrs. G. H. Wiley
Seashore District	Mrs. M. E. Denny
Corresponding Secretary	Miss Annie Linfield
Recording Secretary	Miss Annie Gibbs
Treasurer	Mrs. Annie DeMoss

The Woman's Societies in the Vicksburg District were: Jefferson Street and Wesley Chapel, Natchez, Port Gibson, Vicksburg, Fayette, Rodney, Ebenezer on the Fayette circuit, and Mount Olive on the Knoxville circuit.

Life memberships in the Mississippi Conference Woman's Missionary Society, valued at $20.00 each, were held by Joshua Heard Wimberly, Brandon; Rev. A. F. Watkins, Jackson; Rev. J. M. Weems, Enterprise; Rev. J. P. Drake, Bolton; Mrs. W. H. Watkins, Natchez; Mrs. Perry, Wesley Chapel, Natchez; Ruby Millsaps, Hazlehurst, granddaughter of John G. Jones; Dr. H. F. Johnson and Miss Lucy Kidd, both of Whitworth College. The money for the last two was contributed by the Whitworth girls.

George M. Gilmore

George M. Gilmore passed to his reward on Sunday morning, May 11, at the age of 50, closing his consecrated and useful life in the parsonage home, Clinton, Louisiana, from which place he was serving the East Feliciana circuit. He belonged to an old Methodist family, his father being a local preacher for many years; he himself was converted and joined the church at an early age. He was licensed to preach in 1860 at Old Liberty church, then a campground, in Clarke county, Mississippi. He served in the Civil War, and soon after it was over he married Miss M. E. Phillips, daughter of Capt. W. C. Phillips, in Clarke county. He united with the Alabama Conference in 1867, served two years and was discontinued, only to be admitted on trial again into the Mississippi Conference in 1870. He served 17 years as a traveling preacher on the following circuits: Bladon Springs, Clark, Paulding, McGowan, North Warren, Marion, China Grove, and East Feliciana.

Schedule for Quarterly Conference

The following Third Round of Quarterly Conferences for the Seashore District is given that it may be seen how far they were apart geographically, how difficult the work of serving them, considering the limited means of travel available:

Mount Carmel, at Columbia	June 21, 22
Ellisville, at Ellisville	June 28, 29
Moss Point Station	July 5, 6
Scranton, at Orange Grove	July 12, 13
Ocean Springs, at Ocean Springs	July 19, 20
Vancleave, at Oak Grove	July 20, 21
Pearlington, at Bay St. Louis	July 26, 27
Americus, at Leakesville	August 2, 3
Hattiesburg, at Augusta	August 9, 10
Covington (La.), at Covington	August 16, 17
Franklinton (La.), at Magee's	August 23, 24
China Grove, at China Grove	August 30, 31
Poplarville, at Purvis	September 6, 7

District Conferences

The Brookhaven Conference was held June 26-29, and was reported by Professor Robert S. Ricketts, Secretary. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were J. Harvey Thompson, Robert S. Ricketts, J. Enoch Carruth, and R. W. Millsaps; alternates, J. N. Tucker, local preacher, and John Sexton.

The Seashore Conference was held at Moss Point, July 3-6. A district parsonage was located at Hattiesburg, occupied by the presiding elder, B. S. Rayner, who presided at the Conference. Benjamin Jones was the secretary.

The Woodville District elected as delegates to the Annual Conference F. D. Brame, Geo. T. McGehee, H. C. Newsom, and George Anders, while the Vicksburg Conference elected C. K. Marshall, T. A. Holloman, Henry Key, and T. R. Holloman; alternates, Thomas Reed and H. G. Millsaps.

The Methodist Free Church

This church was organized during the year by Rev. A. B. Fly, a former member and minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Mississippi. It had congregations in Yalobusha, Calhoun, Lafayette, Union, and DeSoto counties in the northern part of this state.

Schools and Colleges

Centenary was now in a far better condition than in former years: the student body had increased in number and more were in the regular college classes; improvements had been made; endowment notes had been secured for about eight thousand dollars; and the largest class in 23 years was graduated. D. M. Rush was president. The commencement sermon was preached by S. H. Werlein on June 1; the address was delivered by Beverly Carradine. The graduates were George E. Green, Jackson, Louisiana; Ernest E. Brown, Natchez; J. Winton Cooper, Jackson, Mississippi; Amos L. Ponder, Natchitoches, Louisiana; Thomas J. Cason, Bastrop; Andrew J. Murff, Shreveport; Horace D. Kimball, Minden. The degree of D.D. was conferred on Rev. David Morton, of the General Board of Church Extension; the M.A. degree was conferred on John W. Chambers, and an honorary M.A. on T. Sambola Jones.

Whitworth was now in the front rank among the female schools of America. The president, Harvey F. Johnson, had proved himself without a peer in educational work; he had constructed at his own expense three buildings and presented them to the church for the college; among them was one costing $20,000. Major R. W. Millsaps gave in cash $1,000 at a meeting of the Board of Trustees. The new building was formally opened on November 3, 1884, with appropriate addresses by Rev. W. B. Lewis and Judge J. B. Chrisman. Later it was called Johnson Institute.

A new institution was established at Holmesville, eight miles east of Magnolia, by H. Walter Featherstun, called *Kavanaugh College*. It began its first session on September 29, 1884. H. W. Featherstun was appointed president.

East Mississippi Female College showed considerable increase in the number of pupils over the last year. A. D. McVoy succeeded J. W. Adkisson as president during the year. The commencement sermon was preached on Sunday, June 15, by Felix R. Hill, of

New Orleans, and the address was delivered on Tuesday evening by Charles B. Galloway.

Port Gibson Female College was better equipped than ever before for the education of girls; the number of boarding pupils was about double that of any year since the war. T. C. Bradford was the president.

Woodville Female Seminary, through its Board of Trustees, made a formal tender of its property to the Conference, and it was accepted in the language of the following resolution: "That we accept with appreciation the tender of the absolute control of the Woodville Female Seminary, and appoint T. S. West to convey this action to the Board of Trustees, and to secure the proper deed from the Trustees to the Church."

A Remarkable Sunday School

The Sunday School at Edwards had its beginning in 1847 and through the present year, 1884, a period of 37 years, only ten of its members had failed to join the church.

Camp Meetings

Camp meetings were held throughout the Conference, and they were well attended usually; many people never tired of them; it was reported that Rev. John Allen, of Farmington, Maine, had attended 347.

The Topisaw meeting began Friday, August 8. The China Grove meeting began Friday before the fifth Sunday in August and closed September 2, with 104 accessions and approximately 150 conversions. W. W. Simmons, the pastor, had received 150 on the charge on profession of faith.

The Trenton meeting included the first Sunday in September, and it resulted in 20 additions; the preachers were A. D. Miller, pastor, F. M. Williams, presiding elder, L. P. Meador, C. McDonald, R. A. Sibley, J. H. Evans, W. W. Cammack, T. B. Walden, M. J. Miller, and J. L. Dorrick, a Lutheran preacher.

The Beech Springs, or Zion, meeting near Union included the second Sunday in September. The Providence meeting was held July 31-August 7.

The St. Mathews meeting on the Newton circuit near Hickory was the week of the third Sunday in September.

The Hennington, or Crystal Springs, meeting began August 7.

Andrew Chapel, eight miles east of DeSoto, included the first Sunday in October.

The Union meeting, twelve miles east of DeSoto, included the third Sunday in October.

The Palmer Creek camp meeting began October 3, and continued through the following Wednesday, with 81 conversions and 49 accessions reported, and 10 infants baptized. Dr. J. B. Walker of New Orleans preached a centennial sermon on Sunday. G. W. Walker was president, and Samuel Walker was secretary.

The Shiloh camp meeting embraced October 9-14. The pastor, R. A. Sibley, told the story of the meeting:

> "Our Shiloh Camp Meeting was quite a success. Sixty or more conversions; the membership much revived and confirmed in the faith once delivered to the saints. Not a very large addition to the membership. Most of those converted were between the ages of eight and twenty years. A few older persons were born of the Spirit. Dr. C. B. Galloway delivered on Sunday ten o'clock, A.M., a very able centenary sermon to a very large and attentive audience. We had able and efficient preaching from Revs. F. M. Williams, P. E., J. T. Heard, A. B. Nicholson, C. McDonald, A. D. Miller, J. L. Vinson, L. E., T. C. Clark, L. E., and J. C. Long, L. P. Many thanks to these brethren for services rendered. All glory and honor to God."
>
> R. A. Sibley.
>
> October 24, 1884.

There were 40 conversions at the Seashore camp meeting this year.

This report of the New Prospect meeting was published in the *Advocate:*

> "The fifth campmeeting held at New Prospect began Friday night, October 24. Owing to the absence by illness of B. S. Rayner, P. E., the meeting was in the care of A. P. Cox, P. C. The opening sermon by R. B. Downer was

upon 'Consecration.' Saturday at 11 A.M. the subject was 'Prayer' by T. S. West; at four P.M. 'The Pertinacity of a Personal Devil' by W. W. Hopper. The subject at night was 'The Transfiguration' by T. S. West. Sunday at eight o'clock Thomas Price preached a clear, comprehensive sermon on 'The Indwelling Kingdom'; at eleven T. S. West preached a centennial sermon with special reference to the bearings of Methodism on 'The Theology of the World'; R. B. Downer at three P.M. had for his subject 'Escape for thy Life,' followed at night by W. W. Hopper on 'Faith.' Monday, amidst continued showers of rain, we had four services, and on Tuesday eight A.M. Prayers. Applicants were received into full connection and the meeting closed."

Fifty conversions were reported, and members were added to adjacent circuits.

New Churches—Dedications

The new church at State Line was dedicated on January 6, with J. A. Godfrey preaching the sermon. J. W. Harmon was pastor. Among the laymen responsible for the building were Capt. R. B. Rich, Jesse Byrd, the father of Rev. A. S. Byrd, T. J. Hood, L. M. R. Knobles, the grandfather of Miss Lillian Knobles, a missionary, and Mr. Rockwell.

The church built at Skipwith on the Mayersville circuit was free from debt.

The handsome new church at Columbia, J. W. McLaurin, pastor, was dedicated the third Sunday in June.

A new church at Mayersville was dedicated on June 8 by Dr. C. K. Marshall.

Mizpeh church was dedicated on Sunday, August 17, with sermon by W. C. Black, pastor at Natchez. This church, on the Lorman charge at the present writing, was on the Dennisville circuit in 1884, and the pastor, J. V. Penn, boarded at the home of Horace Millsaps, an old schoolmate of Dr. Black.

A church was organized at Ratliff's Chapel on the Bolton charge on September 21, 1884, with 16 members.

The church at Scranton (now Pascagoula) was destroyed by fire late in the year.

The German Methodist church at Osyka was destroyed by cyclone, but was rebuilt, and it was dedicated by Dr. J. B. A. Ahrens on Sunday, November 9. The sermon in the morning seems to have been preached in German, but at night a large congregation heard Dr. Ahrens preach in English.

The Methodist church at Beauregard, destroyed by cyclone on April 22, 1883, was announced to be dedicated on Sunday, December 14.

The Main Street Church in Hattiesburg was organized in 1883 with ten members, I. L. Peebles being the pastor. A small lot was purchased, and in January, 1884, the lot was cleared by the hands of the pastor and his members, and a frame church building was erected. After years of service, it was sold; and the present building was erected and occupied first in 1910 when A. F. Watkins was pastor, and was dedicated in 1916 by Bishop J. H. McCoy.

The Poplar Springs Church, Meridian, was organized in 1884 by R. F. Witt, and services were held in the schoolhouse.

The church at Sandersville was organized in 1884, the deed being dated May 19, 1884, and the church building was erected the same year, size about 30 by 60 feet, and valued at $1,500. The church was supplied by Rev. J. B. Baldwin.

Ellisville first appeared as "Ellisville Mission" in the Conference appointments in the year 1859, with George Jackson, pastor, and R. J. Jones, Sr., presiding elder of the Biloxi District. It was a small town on the Tallahala. In 1882 and 1883 the town moved to the railroad a mile west of the old site, where the preaching was done in the courthouse, the pastor being L. J. Jones. During this pastorate Capt. W. H. Hardy, who projected the New Orleans and North Eastern Railroad, and Berry Jordan purchased and presented to the Methodists of Ellisville the entire block on which the church was built. The church and parsonage have occupied this block ever since, the parsonage being erected during the pastorate of J. H. Holland in 1884.

The Homewood church, nine miles south of Forest, was organized in 1884 with 45 charter members, and the first church building was erected the same year, size about 40 by 50 feet. It was replaced by another building in 1905, valued at $3,000. A. D. Miller was the first pastor, and lived at Trenton. The parsonage was built in 1907, and the first pastor to live in it was W. W. Moore. From this church have gone out Andrew J. Boyles and J. Swope Noblin, members of the Mississippi Conference.

The church at McComb was organized in 1872, with E. R. Strickland as pastor. For a while the Methodists worshiped in the Presbyterian church and shared in a union Sunday School, with Methodist preaching services twice a month. Under the pastorate of J. T. Nicholson a definite effort was made to build a church, and it was begun in 1884, a frame structure. The first service was held in it April 19, 1885. It was called Centenary, as it was started in 1884, the Centenary of American Methodism.

The Vernon-Flora Methodist Church, organized at Vernon in 1830, was moved to Flora under the pastorate of Pinckney A. Johnston in 1884, and a small parsonage was built. It was served by J. W. Lambuth in 1852, who had graduated from the University of Mississippi in 1851.

CHAPTER XVI

1885

Conference at Yazoo City

The Annual Conference met at Yazoo City, December 17-22, 1884, the first time there since 1850. Bishop Linus Parker called the Conference to order and conducted the devotional exercises.

The secretary of the last Conference called the roll, and there were 96 clerical and 17 lay delegates present. The secretaries remained the same as last year, except J. W. Chambers was elected statistical secretary.

Visitors

David Morton, Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, was introduced, as was also Rev. J. J. Ransom, Missionary to Brazil, and each addressed the Conference on their respective enterprises.

Admissions—Transfers

There were six *admitted on trial,* of whom Charles F. Smith still lives, in Houston, Texas. The six were: Harrison Bradford, from Jackson, La., station; James A. Newsom, from Benton circuit; Levi S. Jones, Lauderdale; James N. Tucker, Adams and Bogue Chitto; Charles F. Smith, Brookhaven station; and Marshall J. Marble, Brandywine circuit.

W. D. Dominick was *transferred* to the North West Texas Conference, and R. T. Davis to the White River Conference.

Readmitted: W. W. Hopper and David Merchant.

Received by transfer: Francis M. Featherstun, from the Pacific

Conference; J. W. McLaurin, from the Louisiana Conference; and E. D. Pitts, from the Texas Conference.

Discontinued: C. W. Scott, at his own request.

Admitted into full connection: J. Wilson Brown, Samuel J. Cotton, Jules V. Penn, Henry Lee Scarborough, and Virgil D. Skipper.

New superannuates: J. M. Gann, David Merchant, and James H. Shelton.

Ordained deacons: J. V. Penn, V. D. Skipper, S. J. Cotton, J. W. Brown and H. L. Scarborough, traveling preachers; Harrison Bradford, Joshua M. Morse, and James N. Tucker, local preachers.

Ordained elders: Newton M. Clark, traveling preacher, Sterling S. Moore and Levi S. Jones, local preachers.

Centenary Collections

The Annual Conference passed a resolution that all the preachers be requested to continue during the Conference year their Centenary collections, especially as far as Foreign Missions were concerned, until at least the deficit of the annual assessment for the conference should be raised; and Dr. C. B. Galloway was appointed a committee to receive and forward the amounts to the treasurer at Nashville. The Centenary Committee of the Conference had as its officers: C. G. Andrews, chairman; W. L. C. Hunnicutt, vice chairman, and H. H. Hines, treasurer.

Communion Wine

The Committee on Temperance in its report to the Conference used these words: "We condemn the use of impure and adulterated wines in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper." This report was signed by J. A. Ellis and H. R. Singleton. Also, the following resolution, signed by J. W. Harmon, chairman, was adopted: "That in the future we recommend to the officers and stewards, and ministry of the Church, to procure whenever possible and practicable, the unfermented blood of the grape for sacramental purposes."

Augusta Charge

After the Conference of 1884 adjourned, a new circuit was created, called Augusta, after the county seat town of Perry county. C. F. Gillespie, who had been appointed at Conference to the Vancleave circuit, from which part of the new charge was taken, was moved to Augusta; and Aurelius P. Cox, a local preacher of more than ordinary ability, was appointed to Vancleave.

For many years afterward A. P. Cox was a familiar figure in all Methodist churches between Augusta and the Gulf Coast. He was not an outstanding preacher, but he was a most excellent exhorter and was unsurpassed in taking charge of a service at the close of a sermon by someone else, and inviting penitents to come to the altar for prayer. Between this time and his death in 1919 he served a number of charges in the Seashore District as a supply. He was a good man, full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and throughout his faithful and humble ministry many people were added to the Lord.

When C. F. Gillespie arrived at his new charge he called at the home of Captain Benjamin Stevens, a Confederate soldier and the leading Methodist in the Augusta community. An amusing story has been told in later years by the late C. Z. Stevens of Hattiesburg, who was at that time a lad of ten years old in his father's home. When the new minister announced himself as the pastor of the charge and inquired for Capt. Stevens, young Zollie Stevens invited him to go in and immediately began the pursuit of a chicken. The mother, coming to the door, had to divide her time between welcoming the preacher and stopping the boy from the chase. Whereupon the new pastor said, "Let him alone, Sister, he is engaged in a good work." This young boy grew up to be a useful citizen, a member of that fine Stevens family, of whom Hon.

J. Morgan Stevens, formerly a member of the Supreme Court of Mississippi, is the only surviving member.

The Augusta community, where the Stevens family made their home, has since been replaced by New Augusta, across Leaf River, and along the railroad. A loyal group of Methodist people still maintain an active Methodist church in the community.

Joshua T. Heard

On December 30, 1884, only eight days after Conference adjourned, one of its strong men went to his eternal reward, Joshua T. Heard, pastor of Brandon station. He was presiding elder and probably the strongest man who came into the Mississippi Conference when the Meridian District was placed in our Conference in 1870.

Joshua T. Heard was born on November 24, 1817, in Greene county, Georgia. He professed religion while a student at Randolph Macon College in 1837, and his conversion was without doubt; his call to preach was convincing, and he did not resist it or postpone it. He was received on trial at Vicksburg in 1839; he transferred to the Alabama Conference after preaching two years in Mississippi. He married December 20, 1842. He was pastor in Mobile and Eutaw, and presiding elder for four years. The General Conference in 1870 changed the Conference boundaries, and he again became a member of the Mississippi Conference, and remained here till his death, serving Vicksburg, Meridian, Brookhaven, Enterprise, Pearlington, and Brandon, where he was pastor at his death.

Remarkable in prayer, effective in exhortation, strong in camp meetings, a friend of the young, loving in disposition, happy in his home, toilsome in his ministry, he was peaceful in his death, at the home of H. DuBose, Wayne county, whose children he had baptized, including Horace Mellard, afterwards Bishop. He had preached on the Sunday after Christmas at Shubuta, on "Consecration," where he had gone to spend the holidays with his daughter.

Mager Clayton Callaway

On January 13, 1885, M. C. Callaway, pastor of Jackson, Louisiana, station, fell asleep.

Mager Clayton Callaway, the son of Rev. Mager L. and Malinda Callaway, was born in Noxubee county, October 12, 1855. He early felt the call to preach, and joined the church at Macedonia in 1868. Untrained in the school room, he sought earnestly educational equipment for the duty before him and spent one year at Cooper Institute, following probably one year in other schools. He was licensed to preach in 1876 by the Shuqualak quarterly conference, North Mississippi Conference, and was admitted on trial in December 1879 into the Mississippi Conference. His first and last sermons were preached at Macedonia, the church he joined and the church that recommended him to preach.

His itinerancy included one year as supply on the Westville circuit, and pastor at Amite City circuit, Handsboro mission, Spring Ridge circuit, and Jackson, Louisiana, station. He was faithful, popular, zealous, loving, active, cheerful, and it seems strange that a young life so promising should be cut off so soon. He married Miss Celeste Lusk of Jackson, Mississippi, on July 2, 1884, and lived but about six months thereafter. He died in Jackson, Louisiana, and was buried in Jackson, Mississippi.

David Martin Rush

The President of Centenary College died on January 19, 1885, the third strong minister to depart this life within a month's time.

David Martin Rush was born in Lamar county, Alabama, January 12, 1845. Nothing is told us of his parents, except that his mother was a devoted Christian and reared her children in the faith. At an early age he united with the church, soon went as a volunteer into the Confederate Army, and served with fidelity till it was over. He had a great desire for an education, and accordingly entered Southern University, Greensboro, Alabama; and, although taxed to the limit of his ability to pay his expenses, and hindered by disease, he came to the end of his course the leading member of his class and with the degree of Master of Arts. He was admitted into the Mobile Conference, but was discontinued before he was admitted into full connection.

In 1876 he was admitted into the Mississippi Conference, and remained a member till his death. He was a tutor and Principal of the Preparatory Department of Southern University, and afterward elected to a professorship and later to the Presidency of Centenary College, and remained for two and a half sessions until his death.

James H. Shelton

James H. Shelton, who had just superannuated at the recent Conference session, died at Anguilla on February 11, 1885. Born in Georgia in 1834, he became religious at an early age, being reared by a pious mother. He united with the Mississippi Conference in 1852, and was ordained deacon by Bishop Early in 1854 and ordained elder by Bishop Pierce in 1856. His appointments were: 1861-62, Clinton; 1863-64, Chaplain to Confederate Army; 1865-66, Warren; 1867-68, Yazoo; 1869-71, Wilkinson; 1872-73, Fayette; 1874-77, Yazoo; 1878-79, Summit; 1880-81, Clover Hill; 1882-83, Rolling Fork; 1884, Vickland and Sunflower. He married Miss Stella V. Rives on December 2, 1857, and to them were born several children, only two of whom survived him.

Bishop Linus Parker

Death claimed Linus Parker at his home in New Orleans on March 6, 1885, aged 56; and he was buried in New Orleans. Born in Vienna, Oneida county, New York, in 1829, at the age of fifteen he came to New Orleans and found employment. His call to preach was urgent, and he finally ceased his study of the law and gave himself completely to the service of God. The most of his ministry was in New Orleans, where he was pastor, and then editor of the *Advocate* for twelve years. Elected a bishop in 1882, he had held the recent session of the Mississippi Conference in December 1884. A great and good man, he had but three years in the episcopal office, and brightest prospects closed with the end of his earthly life. Franklin N. Parker and Fitsgerald S. Parker were his sons; their mother was a daughter of Rev. John C. Burruss.

Gabriel Hawkins, M.D.

Gabriel Hawkins, pastor of the Paulding charge, died on May 6, 1885. Born in Spartanburg District, South Carolina, November 25, 1827, the son of Herbert Hawkins, a local preacher, and Mrs. Armin Boswell Hawkins, daughter of Colonel Isham Foster, of Spartanburg, many years a sheriff of the district; his father was a son of Joshua Hawkins, of Virginia, a revolutionary soldier. While a student in his native district he was converted and joined the Mt. Zion Baptist church on September 27, 1843. In 1847 he moved with his parents and settled in Pickens county, Alabama. He early felt the call to preach, from which he shrank, and he attended the State Medical College of Georgia, where he received with credit the degree of M.D.; however he never practiced the profession, but was arrested by a serious illness, which he interpreted as a warning, and he resolved to heed the call. Being unable to accept the doctrine of close communion and Calvinism and the government of the Baptist Church, he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in 1853.

In 1854 he joined the Alabama Conference, and in his first year he received 175 converted persons into the church; and in his second year there were 235 conversions and additions to the church. He was ordained deacon at the next Conference by Bishop Pierce, and at the close of his fourth year he was ordained elder by Bishop Paine.

In December, 1882, he was received by transfer into the Mississippi Conference, and appointed to Paulding charge, and served that work till his death at Rose Hill, May 6, 1885. Burial was at Enterprise.

He was married to Miss Martha Elizabeth Lawrence, daughter of H. N. Lawrence, to whom were born eleven children, four dying before his death. Two of his sons, H. G. Hawkins and Ira F. Hawkins, were preachers, and two of his daughters married preachers: John Jay Golden, and W. B. Jones, the writer of this book. His oldest son, George L. Hawkins, was a successful businessman and civic and church leader. One son and one daughter are still with us: Ira F. Hawkins, honored superannuate of the North Alabama Conference, and Mrs. S. L. Heidelberg of Hattiesburg. A nephew, Hawkins Golden, is a prominent attorney in Dallas, Texas, and at the present time is president of the Dallas Bar Association.

Other Deaths During the Year

Dr. Frederick A. W. Davis, born in Washington, Kentucky, June 28, 1801, graduated at Transylvania, came to Natchez in 1833, and died on January 12, 1885.

Ebenezer F. Divine died at his home near Sharon, 84 years old. He had been a leader in the church at Cane Ridge, Jefferson county, and one of the founders of the church at Sharon, where he moved in 1835. Born in New York in 1801, he united with the church in 1829, was married three times, and was survived by his third wife and several children.

James McDaniel died near Brookhaven on January 25, 1885, more than 100 years old, having been born in Georgia on March 25, 1784. His wife, with whom he had lived for 75 years, survived him.

Rev. W. H. Seat died at Goliath, Texas, January 28, 1885. He was pastor of the church at Jackson, now Galloway Memorial, before he was transferred to Texas in 1853; he was transferred from Memphis to Mississippi in 1849.

Mrs. Mary Margaret Barnes, daughter of Rev. Henry and Mrs.

Susannah Hennington, died at Crystal Springs on February 11, 1885, leaving eight children. Born in Jones county on November 9, 1822, she came to Crystal Springs in 1830. She married Willis Barnes of Smith county on May 10, 1838.

Mrs. Thomas Simmons, mother of W. W. Simmons, of the Mississippi Conference, died March 1, 1885.

George Ellis died at the home of Dr. G. H. Ellis, his son, in Utica on March 9, 1885, aged 77. A native of Louisiana, in 1833 he married Miss Elizabeth Wade, and settled in Hinds county where he lived for more than 40 years. He was a representative in the Legislature. He joined the church in 1853 and was a consistent member thereafter, his home being the preacher's home.

Green Millsaps, a leading member of Pleasant Valley church, departed this life on March 28. Born in Perry county, April 26, 1812, one year after the family had come from Georgia and organized a Methodist church in that county, at the time of his death he was one of the two surviving children of a family of ten. The family moved to Copiah county in 1825, where he joined the church and was an active member. For one year he was on trial in the Mississippi Conference.

Joseph East, about 55, died at Natchez, March 29, 1886, a native of Copiah county. In September 1883 he found peace at the altar of Wesley Chapel, Natchez, and thenceforth he lived an earnest Christian life.

Samuel K. Russ died at his home on Napoleon Avenue, New Orleans, on April 9; the funeral was conducted by Beverly Carradine and Bishop Keener. He was on trial in the Mississippi Conference, 1863-65.

Rev. Richard F. Flowers, of Crystal Springs, was received on trial into this Conference in 1874, and was pastor at Washington, Tranquil, East Pascagoula, Bayou Sara, Amite, Ponchatoula, and Philadelphia, and was located in 1883 on account of ill health. At the time of his death, May 1, 1885, he was superintendent of the Sunday School at Crystal Springs. He was educated at Centenary and Vanderbilt and married Miss Elizabeth Raynham, November 22, 1882.

Mrs. Mattie Penelope Cowart, daughter of Washington and Mary Lott, died at her mother's in Hancock county on July 6, aged 34.

Mrs. Virginia Anderson died at her residence in Jones county on June 19. The daughter of T. N. and Mrs. S. J. Holloman, she was born in Alabama in 1856, joined the church when 16, came to Jones county in 1879, and married in 1883.

Gen. U. S. Grant, a Methodist, according to the *Advocate* of Thursday, July 30, "died on the morning of Thursday last," July 23. He had peace with God and died in certain hope of a blessed resurrection. He was buried in Central Park, New York.

Margaret Coker Nobles was born January 15, 1829, in Green county, and joined the church in early girlhood.

T. S. West, pastor at Woodville, lost an infant son ten months of age, *George Milton.*

Mrs. M. M. Heard, wife of the late Rev. Joshua T. Heard, died on August 1, 1885, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. E. B. Wimberly, with whom she lived since the death of her husband. She was born in Colleton District, South Carolina, July 25, 1821, daughter of Major Joseph Koger who moved to Mississippi and represented Noxubee and Winston counties in the State Senate for several years. Married by Bishop Andrew, December 20, 1842, she served in the ministry with her husband 43 years in Alabama and Mississippi.

Dempsey Sparkman died near Good Hope in Leake county on August 2, aged 85. A native of Georgia, he came to this State in 1848, and was a farmer and local preacher.

Daniel H. Black died near Queen's Hill church on June 26, aged 69. Born near Paris, Tennessee, he moved to Hinds county about 1852 and remained there.

Mrs. M. J. Bowling, member of Trinity church, Raleigh circuit, wife of Robert Bowling, steward, died on July 31, at the age of 35.

Miss Eliza J. Jones, daughter of Henry T. Jones, formerly of the Mississippi Conference, and sister of L. J. Jones of the Mississippi Conference, died at the home of her brother in Winchester, Mississippi, August 30, 1885, aged 26. She first joined the Congregational Methodist Church, but about three years before her death she united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. A professional singer of rare talent, beauty, and voice, she lived a beautiful Christian life. She died without a cloud, and was buried in the Winchester cemetery.

Martin W. Eagin, one of the oldest and most loved members of the church at Crystal Springs, died September 24, 1885. Born in 1809, he united with the church in 1850. His first marriage was to Miss Laura Stackhouse in 1832, and his second was to Mrs. Kate Willis in 1865.

Miss Emma Gramling died at her home near Mayersville, October 5, 1885. She joined the church at Brookhaven the same year she graduated from Whitworth College, and she maintained her religious fidelity till her death.

R. W. Carr was born July 23, 1793, near Crystal Springs, and died near the same place October 15, 1885, aged 92 years. He joined the church when 19, and he joined the Masons in 1819, and was probably the oldest Mason in the State when he died. He was father-in-law of J. W. McNeil, formerly of the Mississippi Conference, at whose home he died.

Mrs. Verturia V. Fairman died at her home near Crystal Springs on October 16, 1885, aged 49. She was the wife of L. Q. Fairman, and the daughter of John T. and Sarah Witherspoon.

Mrs. Fannie A. Sims died at Silver Creek on November 9, 1885, aged 37. She joined the Methodist Protestant Church in 1864, at the age of 16, and came into the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in the union of 1871. She married John Murray Sims in 1872 at Williamsburg.

Lewis Holyfield died at his home near Westville in Simpson county on November 18, aged 81. A member of the church for more than 50 years, he let his light shine and was an upright man.

Mrs. Mahala Ramsay, wife of Daniel H. Ramsay of Jackson and Harrison counties, and a member of the church for many years, died on November 2. Her husband had died in 1868. They had eight children.

Dr. E. T. Hudnall died at his home near China Grove on November 26, 1885, in great peace, at the age of 56. Born in Livingston, Alabama, he moved to Kemper county when 17, and graduated in medicine at the State University, New York. In 1857 he located in Columbia, joined the church there in 1860, and married Nancy A. Powell. He served in the Confederate Army as a surgeon; afterwards moved to Lawrence county and lived there for 15 years, then to Pike county for the last six years of his life.

Ambrose Knox Ramsey, a legislator, bank director, and railroad president, died in Meridian on December 1, 1885, aged 90. Born in North Carolina in 1795, he married Ann Graves Yancy of Caswell county, North Carolina in 1817. After her death in 1858, he married Susan Ramsey of Grenada in 1863, who died about four years before him. Ten children were born to him by his first wife. He was a true Methodist, an honest man, a good citizen, and a Christian.

Mrs. A. G. Cowan died at Hattiesburg at the residence of a son on December 10, 1885. Formerly a Miss Greaves, she was born in Georgetown, South Carolina, in 1820, moved to Madison county and married R. C. Cowan in 1847, and moved to Handsboro where she spent the greater portion of her life. She joined the church in 1855.

Rev. and Mrs. W. G. Backus lost their little son, Henry, 17 months of age, according to a beautiful tribute written by Mrs. L. C. Sadler.

Woman's Missionary Society

The report of the Woman's Missionary Societies in the Conference for the year 1884 follows: Ten life memberships—$200;

twelve new auxiliaries; two candidates for the mission fields: Miss Carrie Steele, who was to continue teaching on account of her youth, and Miss Bettie Hughes in East Mississippi Female College. There were now 32 auxiliaries with 600 members; seven junior auxiliaries with 200 members, a total of 14 life members, and a total financial exhibit of $1,053.17. Miss Betty Hughes lived until a few years ago.

There is reference to a Woman's Missionary Society in Moss Point.

Six ladies from Meridian, Enterprise, and Brandon, and four from Hazlehurst and Crystal Springs, met in Jackson. For some reason they could not go to Raymond, the scheduled place for the Annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Conference, so with three delegates from Jackson they met and elected officers as follows:

President—Miss Jemmie Petty, of Meridian
Vice-Presidents—Mrs. C. G. Andrews, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. Daisy Price, Mrs. Betty Parker, Mrs. E. D. Jones, Miss Emma Norsworthy, Mrs. M. E. Denny
Corresponding Secretary—Miss Annie E. Linfield
Recording Secretary—Mrs. J. M. Weems
Treasurer—Mrs. Annie DeMoss, Mrs. R. S. Woodward

There were present: Mrs. Daisy Price, Miss Sallie Smylie, Mrs. Stedman, Miss Washburn, Miss Annie Linfield, Mrs. J. M. Weems, Mrs. C. G. Andrews, Miss Betty Parker, Miss May Howell, and Mrs. Emma Siebe, and three others.

Items Worthy of Note

Early in the year the offering for the Centenary Fund of the Conference was $59,219.09; later the amount was increased considerably.

John W. Ellison spent seven days on the road traveling from Newton to St. Helena, Louisiana, his new appointment. On his way he spent Sunday with Capt. Eaton at Williamsburg, and Monday night with W. J. Ball, a local preacher, at Columbia.

After Conference John Lusk, a supernumerary living at Clinton, was appointed to Dover circuit, Jackson District, and F. M. Featherstun was sent from Dover to Brandon, following the death of J. T. Heard.

A letter from Rev. Daniel Morse, Marshall, Texas, printed in the *Advocate* referred to Edward McGehee and John Whittaker, and to Dr. James Angell, a local preacher, formerly of Woodville, now at Galveston.

Rev. T. A. S. Adams was unanimously elected president of Centenary College following the death of President Rush.

At Jackson the Sunday School superintendent, Col. W. L. Nugent, was absent only once in 1884, the librarian only once, and secretary none; six teachers and 10 pupils had perfect attendance. More than 20 years later, the writer was a member of this school for three years, a member of a Bible Class taught in Greek by Dr. James A. Moore, of Millsaps College.

The Wesley Chapel church, Phoenix, presented the pastor, Parmenas Howard, a suit, and Satartia presented him a new buggy and overcoat.

A letter from J. W. Lambuth early in the year gives some interesting history: In April 1855 Mrs. Lambuth had taken her first Chinese pupil, an eight-year-old girl named Siadoo, and that he opened his first school in March 1855 with 15 boys; he preached the first time at the school in April, 1855. These were noble workers, and distinguished people. Mrs. Lambuth was a cousin of President Grover Cleveland.

The trustees of Seashore Campground met on the grounds with a full attendance, and elected W. H. Foster, president, W. J. Hearon, vice-president, E. P. Mackie, secretary, and H. Jamieson, keeper of the grounds.

T. B. Holloman and Miss Matilda Jones, youngest daughter of John G. Jones, were married at Hazlehurst on April 26, the officiating ministers being John G. Jones, father, and J. A. B. Jones, brother.

W. R. Sims, a local preacher, sometime a Fellow at Vanderbilt and assistant professor of English, was elected principal of the District High School at Hattiesburg.

R. B. Downer, of Ocean Springs, wrote in November that Joseph Nicholson, a superannuate living there, had had a light stroke, was very feeble, and was in a necessitous condition patiently waiting for the end. He lived another year to bless the church and the world, and died December 20, 1886.

J. H. Evans lived in his first parsonage while pastor of the Raleigh circuit this year, although he had been serving in the Methodist Protestant Church and our Church for nearly 20 years. It was at Montrose where the Methodist church was called Price's Chapel.

L. S. Jones wrote a good *Advocate* article on dancing, which was then very prevalent, registering himself strongly against it (1) because it is unholy and unprofitable, (2) sensuous, (3) senseless, and (4) barbaric and devilish.

Cane Ridge Church—Watkins

At Cane Ridge church on Sunday, April 26, 1885, Mrs. Elizabeth Watkins, widow of W. H. Watkins, presented through Thomas H. Watkins and Julia Watkins, parents of H. B. Watkins, late of the Mississippi Conference, a sacramental service to the church. The presentation address by Mrs. Julia Watkins was given in full in the *Advocate*, as was also the response made by J. Perry Drake, pastor. Henry Vaughan Watkins, for many years a layman at Jackson, was baptized at this service.

Sons of Bishop Linus Parker

The *Advocate* of May 14 said: "Bro. Frank Parker, son of Bishop Linus Parker, was licensed to preach at the Felicity Street church. At the same time the Louisiana Avenue church recommended Bro. Gerald Parker, another son of the sainted Bishop for license to preach which will be granted next week." Franklin

N. Parker preached his maiden sermon at St. Charles Avenue church on Sunday morning, May 17, one day before Fitzgerald S. Parker was licensed to preach. F. S. Parker was licensed at the Louisiana Avenue quarterly conference on Monday evening, May 18. He left on May 21 to take charge of the church at Franklin, Louisiana. Franklin N. Parker, together with Henry A. Ahrens, entered Vanderbilt University in September as a student.

Philadelphia Church—Heidelberg

Lyman Carley, pastor of the Vossburg and Heidelberg charge, writes, "Through the liberality of W. I. Heidelberg and W. W. Abney the old church known as Philadelphia, one mile from Heidelberg, was torn down and rebuilt on an eligible lot near what will be, in the future, the center of the town. It is now a beautiful structure and an ornament to the place." This was reported in the *Advocate* of August 27, 1885; in the *Advocate* of January 22 it had been stated that the new Methodist church at Heidelberg would be dedicated the second Sunday in February—February 8, 1885. This fixes the date of the moving of the church most probably in the latter part of 1884, or early 1885. The building of another church about three and a half miles west of Heidelberg, which retained the name of Philadelphia, followed in due order, because some of the members who lived in that section preferred not to retain their membership in the old church which was moved to town. These are the present Heidelberg and Philadelphia churches on the Heidelberg charge. The first Philadelphia church was the writer's boyhood church, and was where he joined the church as a lad during a meeting held by Gabriel Hawkins, whose daughter he married a score of years later.

New Churches—Dedications

There was a parsonage at Bolton, a new church at Clinton, and an old church at Raymond, wrote T. L. Mellen, pastor. Ratliff's was another preaching point.

There was a new parsonage at Brookhaven, and it was occupied by C. B. Galloway, pastor, who was also editor of the *Advocate,* and his family on February 11.

The new church at McComb was dedicated on March 8. The sermon was by H. F. Johnson, and J. A. B. Jones, presiding elder, led in the dedication; J. T. Nicholson was the pastor.

The Fayette parsonage, purchased in 1834, was quite old at this time, being the oldest parsonage in the Southwest. The present parsonage at Fayette was built in 1897, and has since been remodeled.

W. C. Black, pastor in Meridian, announced that the old church at Meridian had been moved about a mile and situated on a very eligible lot. This old church in the new situation became a new preaching place called "West End." This was the beginning of the present Fifth Street Church whose present commodious building was completed in 1928 during the pastorate of the writer of these lines, and the Annual Conference was held in it in 1929. Dr. Black first preached in the first building on July 19, 1885.

The cornerstone of the new downtown Methodist church at Meridian was laid with appropriate ceremonies on Wednesday, August 19, 1885. The address was delivered by Charles B. Galloway; while W. C. Black, pastor, and other ministers also took part in the service. This church was called First Church for a few years and then its name was changed to Central Church.

P. A. Johnston appealed for help to complete the parsonage at Flora, a new town, and this appeal was endorsed by C. G. Andrews, pastor at Jackson. Dr. Andrews was a member at Vernon, near Flora, before he entered the ministry.

A. D. Miller credited and thanked Hon. A. G. Mayers for a contribution of five dollars and asked for more aid for finishing the Homewood church, which later became one of the leading country churches and today is headquarters of a circuit.

J. W. McLaurin visited New Orleans seeking aid for the church building at Purvis, and collected $173.00. He wrote that he would have the church ready for dedication on the second Sunday in December 1885.

Commencements

The commencement of East Mississippi Female College embraced June 14-18; the sermon was preached by Dr. Hardie Brown; the annual address was delivered by Rev. Alonzo Monk. Miss Florence R. Jenkins, Meridian, was the only graduate this year. Rev. A. D. McVoy was president.

The commencement at Kavanaugh College was held June 28-July 3. The sermon was preached by J. E. Thigpen of Hazlehurst, and the annual address was delivered by Hon. T. R. Stockdale. The college was located at Holmesville, Pike county, and came into existence through the guiding hand of H. Walter Featherstun.

District Conferences

The *Brandon* District Conference met on June 25 with F. M. Williams, P.E., in the chair. The Scott County Prohibition Convention met in connection with the District Conference, and Presidents H. F. Johnson and A. D. McVoy delivered addresses.

The *Vicksburg* District Conference met at the Cane Ridge church, on the Fayette circuit, July 23, and continued three days. W. L. C. Hunnicutt, the presiding elder, was in the chair. C. B. Galloway, editor of the *New Orleans Christian Advocate,* T. C. Bradford, president of Port Gibson Female College, and H. F. Johnson, president of Whitworth College, were visitors. The following were elected delegates to the Annual Conference: G. L. Record, Major Thomas Reed, C. K. Marshall, and T. A. Holloman.

The *Meridian* District Conference met at Lauderdale on July 30th, with James A. Godfrey, P. E., in the chair. Resolutions were passed on the death of Gabriel Hawkins, who had died at Rose Hill on May 6, 1885, showing how highly he was esteemed, and a glowing eulogy on his life was given by A. D. McVoy, of the East Mississippi Female College. A strong report on temperance was made by L. Carley, D. G. W. Ellis, and F. Y. Blanks, committee, and resolutions were passed to banish intemperance from among the membership of the church, endorsing the W.C.T.U., and calling for unceasing prayer and work for the success of prohibition.

The *Jackson* District Conference was held at Soule Chapel, Camden circuit, and continued for three days, with J. A. Ellis, P. E., in the chair. A committee composed of I. W. Cooper, the secretary of the Conference, A. G. Moore, R. G. Kemp, T. L. Mellen, and W. L. King was appointed to purchase a *district parsonage*. H. W. Bushman, E. C. Postell, and Rev. T. A. S. Adams, president of Centenary College, were among those who attended the Conference.

The *Woodville* District Conference was held in Greensburg, La., August 13-16, with D. A. Little, P. E., in the chair. C. B. Galloway, editor, T. A. S. Adams, president of Centenary College, and T. W. Brown, president of Woodville Female Seminary, addressed the Conference. Jackson, Louisiana, was selected as the place of the next meeting. Delegates to the Annual Conference were elected: H. C. Newsom, N. J. Roberts, G. D. Anders, and P. A. Richardson.

Camp Meetings

The Providence camp meeting, east of Hazlehurst, began Friday night, July 24, and continued till the following Wednesday. The ministers present were J. A. B. Jones, P.E., H. P. Lewis, pastor, J. W. Harmon, T. B. Holloman, J. L. Forsyth, J. N. Tucker, H. D. Howell, W. W. Cammack, and John G. Jones.

The camp meeting at Crystal Springs was held, beginning August 20, with larger crowds than usual. Many penitents were at the altar, and it was estimated that 3,000 were present at the Sunday morning service. The annual address on Monday morning was delivered by Dr. C. W. Carter, of Louisiana.

The Palmer Creek camp meeting had the following ministers present: W. G. Backus, pastor, B. S. Rayner, P.E., Benjamin

Jones, Henry Ware, W. G. Evans, A. P. Cox, David Merchant, and others. The congregations were large, and there were 35 conversions and 20 accessions. J. B. Walker of New Orleans, who reported the meeting, preached four times.

Other Revivals

A great meeting with 82 conversions and 61 additions at Wesley Chapel, Natchez, was reported on May 28; J. V. Penn, pastor, was assisted by H. D. Kimball and T. L. Mellen.

A good meeting was held at McComb; J. T. Nicholson, pastor, was assisted by J. W. Harmon, Dr. R. C. Bethea, C. F. Smith, and C. B. Galloway.

Sharon circuit, J. S. Parker, pastor, reported meetings at Sharon, Forest Grove, and Millville, with 22 conversions and 40 additions. A meeting at Heidelberg had 23 accessions; the pastor was assisted by N. B. Harmon.

Pleasant Hill, Marion circuit, R. F. Witt, pastor, witnessed 22 conversions and received 15 members.

Enterprise, J. M. Weems, pastor, reported 23 conversions and 15 new members in a 12-day meeting, assisted by A. D. McVoy and J. W. McLaurin.

J. C. Long, local pastor supply, reported a good meeting at Providence with 35 conversions and 29 accessions, and with a prayer meeting and Sunday School organized. Later he reported 55 accessions and 65 conversions for the Hillsboro circuit during the year. Two churches were built and a parsonage secured.

Santee and Bethel, D. F. Guice, pastor, reported 21 accessions, 19 of them being on profession of faith.

Lockhart, Marion circuit, R. F. Witt, pastor, reported a gracious meeting with 30 conversions and 19 accessions; and also Coker's Chapel, Vimville, with 15 conversions and 8 accessions, with D. C. Langford and J. A. Godfrey, the presiding elder, assisting.

A meeting was held at Ellisville, headquarters of the Hattiesburg circuit, with 25 accessions, J. W. McLaurin, pastor, being assisted by J. M. Weems of Enterprise.

Walnut Grove circuit, L. P. Meador, pastor, reported four meetings with 26 accessions.

The camp meeting at Beech Springs, J. A. Vance, pastor, had a precious time with 13 accessions, and the estimate was that a thousand people were there on Sunday. About this meeting, L. P. Meador said to the *Advocate* editor: "You railroad and school preachers do not know what you miss. Come out here."

Vossburg, with Lyman Carley as pastor, witnessed a good meeting with 14 accessions, and a boys' prayer meeting organized.

Quitman on the Shubuta circuit, E. F. Edgar, pastor, received 25 members and had many conversions. By November there had been 67 added to the churches on the circuit.

J. H. Holland, of Neshoba, reported a good time religiously on that circuit this year, with 10 protracted meetings held, 86 members received, 65 conversions, and three churches built.

Hattiesburg circuit, J. W. McLaurin, pastor, reported 153 accessions this year, one new church built and fully furnished, a second one started, and two others painted and furnished, one with a bell and another with an organ. One hundred dollars had been paid on the parsonage at Ellisville. The financial report would be in full, except possibly for the pastor. In the revival meetings, J. W. McLaurin was assisted by J. D. Hays, B. S. Rayner, D. F. Guice, N. M. Clark, J. M. Weems, C. B. Galloway, E. J. Taylor, and C. L. Watson, a layman.

Morton and Forest, Geo. Bancroft, pastor, reported a meeting with 38 accessions and 30 children baptized.

Brandywine circuit reported 70 conversions, 50 accessions, and 5 licensed to preach. Ira B. Robertson, pastor, was assisted in these meetings by C. A. Powell, V. D. Skipper, E. B. O'Quin, C. W. Campbell, Jr., and his father, Dr. C. W. Campbell, a local preacher.

Newton, I. L. Peebles, pastor, reported 20 accessions.

CHAPTER XVII

1886

Conference in Meridian

The Mississippi Annual Conference met in Meridian, December 16-24, 1885, Bishop Holland N. McTyeire presiding. The secretary of the previous year called the roll and 99 ministers and the following laymen answered to their names: G. D. Anders, N. J. Roberts, P. A. Richardson, Robert Babington, A. P. Cox, J. E. Smith, G. W. Walker, George Harvey, W. L. Nugent, H. W. Bushman, J. L. Vinson, Irvin Miller, W. M. Thornton, S. O. Brown, J. H. Warren, E. G. Mohler, A. M. Moore, C. R. Rencher, A. D. Gordon, G. L. Record, Thomas Reed, C. K. Marshall, T. A. Holliman, and R. W. Millsaps.

Visiting brethren were J. B. McFerrin, Book Agent; D. C. Kelly, Treasurer of the Mission Board; W. C. Dunlap, Agent Paine Institute; T. A. S. Adams, President of Centenary College; and T. Y. Ramsey, Agent Paine Loan Fund.

Committee chairmen for the standing committees were as follows: Public Worship, James A. Godfrey; Memoirs, Samuel J. Cotton; State of the Church, D. P. Bradford; Publishing Interests, E. H. Mounger; Bible Cause, Ralph Bradley; Temperance, Robert S. Woodward; Sabbath Observance, Thomas Reed; District Conference Records, T. A. Holliman; Conference Relations, W. W. Hurst; Sunday School Board, J. M. Weems; Church Extension Board, W. L. Nugent; Board of Education, C. G. Andrews.

Admitted on Trial

The following were admitted on trial: George D. Anders, Amite circuit; Nathan J. Roberts, Amite circuit; James G. Sibley, Hattiesburg circuit; Victor V. Boone, Sharon circuit; Matthew James Miller, Trenton circuit; Martin L. Burton, Raleigh circuit; Nolan B. Harmon, Paulding circuit; Joshua M. Morse, DeKalb circuit; William Webb Morse, DeKalb circuit; John W. Tinnin, Lauderdale circuit; Albert C. Flowers, Meadville circuit; J. Herbert Woodward, Natchez station; Robert S. Gale, Mount Olivet circuit; Robert Selby, Newton circuit. James Healey and Joseph J. Lovett were located. E. D. Pitts was transferred to North Texas, W. W. Hopper and C. F. Smith to East Texas.

Ordinations

Benjamin F. Lewis and Thomas L. Mellen, traveling preachers, were ordained deacons; Nolan B. Harmon, Aurelius P. Cox, and Lyman R. Roberts were ordained local deacons. D. Fernando Guice, Martin Anding Bell, James Healey, and Thomas C. Bradford, traveling preachers, were ordained elders; James M. Weems and Charles W. Moody, local preachers, were ordained elders.

Educational Institutions

It is interesting to note the report on educational institutions:

> Centenary College for young men, chartered in 1839, endowment $8000, professors 5, pupils 74, value of property, $80,000.
>
> Whitworth Female College, value of property, $70,000, professors 17, pupils 250.
>
> Port Gibson Female College, value of property $40,000, volumes in library, 100, teachers 6, pupils 74.
>
> East Mississippi Female College, chartered 1872, value of property, $20,000, large philosophical apparatus, and cabinet of minerals, teachers 6, pupils 124.
>
> Woodville Female Seminary, no report.
>
> Kavanaugh College for men and women, founded 1884, value of property, $1,500, faculty 6, normal graduates, 2, pupils 125.

It is quite the fashion in these latter days to look with something less than admiration upon the schools of that day, with their small student bodies, their meager equipment, and their almost complete lack of endowment. But it would be well to remember that from these schools came the men and women who rescued the South from the poverty and desolation following the Civil War and Reconstruction period. The answer to this is to be found in the fine character and real scholarship of the men and women who constituted the faculty of these schools, also the genuine desire on the part of students to secure an education.

Appropriations

The Conference Board of Missions appropriated the following amounts to those serving missions in 1885:

H. L. Scarborough, Livingston Mission	$150.00
John Boyes, Pearl Mission	75.00
J. B. Baldwin, Sandersville Misson	150.00
T. J. Miller, Spring Cottage Mission	112.50
J. A. Vance, Decatur Mission	100.00
P. A. Johnston, Hinds Mission	300.00
J. V. Penn, Wesley Chapel Mission	150.00
A. F. Watkins, Martin Mission	100.00
J. W. McLaurin, Poplarville Mission	112.50
Benjamin Jones, Seashore Mission	100.00
	$1,350.00

The Conference Board of Church Extension made the following appropriations:

Church at Poplarville, Marion county	$100.00
Church at Purvis, Marion county	100.00
Church at Lawrence, Newton county	50.00
Church at Pocahontas, Hinds county	50.00
Cantrell Church, Scott county	50.00
Church at Raymond, Hinds county	100.00

The question sent down by the General Conference of 1882, "Shall the name of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, be changed to Methodist Episcopal Church in America?" was submitted by the Bishop to the Conference, and resulted—*ayes,* none; *noes* 109.

Advocate Publishing Committee

The report of the Publishing Committee of the *New Orleans Christian Advocate,* signed by W. H. Foster and J. H. Harrison, says, "The vigor and intelligence of its editorial composition give it an emphasis and influence that must be productive of good and command recognition in the rank of representative journalism in the church—its circulation is creditable alike to the editor and all concerned. We find its finances in a healthy, prosperous condition." Dr. Charles B. Galloway was the editor.

Woman's Missionary Society

Miss Annie E. Linfield, corresponding secretary of the Woman's Missionary Society, reports that, closing in March last year, $1,000 was raised and prospects for more this year.

During this year responding to Miss Haygood's call for aid to build a High School for girls in China, they have raised already about double what was promised, and only a few have as yet responded. Last year enough was raised to support one missionary, and also a donation was made of $300.00 to our college in Brazil. The treasurer's report for the Woman's Missionary Society for Miss Haygood's school in China to March 20 was $151.35; General Fund, $666.92.

Prohibition

The prohibition movement was on in March in Meridian and vicinity, and such lecturers as Galloway, Gambrell, Marshall, Benson, S. John, Mead, Hopkins, Brooks, and some women, Mrs. Wells and others, and Dr. A. S. Reynolds were joining in the battle, led by W. C. Black, the W.C.T.U. and the other ministers of the city. The fight was on in earnest against the saloon and for prohibition in Mississippi, and C. B. Galloway, chairman of the

State Prohibition Executive Committee, issued an address to the friends of temperance, in which he points out that the last Legislature passed a local option law, which was desired; eleven counties were now dry in Mississippi and he advised: 1. Do not bring on a contest precipitately; 2. Perfect your organization in each county; 3. Avoid personal and political controversies; 4. Sow down each county with wholesome temperance literature; 5. Special attention be given toward assisting the colored people in their temperance organizations.

This was followed up by the preachers in the Conference; I. L. Peebles, pastor, wrote from Newton, March 16, that the last whiskey saloon closed that day. Newton county was now dry. Mrs. Wells lectured the last night, and the W.C.T.U. was organized with forty-three members.

W. C. Black was on a lecture tour for prohibition, at Utica, Natchez, Port Gibson, Edwards, Jackson, Wilson, Centerville. He said that prohibition was in the air and public sentiment was crystallizing in the edict, "The saloon must go." C. B. Galloway, editor, delivered an address on temperance at Crystal Springs on Friday night and was the guest of T. B. Holloman, the pastor. The church, newly painted and handsomely furnished, was crowded. M. H. Moore, pastor at Mayersville, expressed the hope and belief that the more than twenty saloons would be soon put out of the little county of Issaquena. It was reported that the whiskey men of Copiah county, in July, brought on an election as the county was dry, and the result of the election was that of the 2673 votes cast, but 747 of them were for opening the saloon; the county remained dry. R. J. Jones, pastor at Moss Point, July 24, 1886, submitted a resolution by the quarterly conference to the effect that not one of the members was on the side of the liquor traffic; all who could do so voted and worked for its defeat, including women and children. Richard Abbey reports that Yazoo county won the prohibition election, August 17, by over two hundred votes. It was a hard battle started by fifty men.

Prohibition won a victory in Jasper county by a majority of 315 votes, and it brought much rejoicing, wrote L. Carley, pastor at Vossburg. As reported October 14, prohibition won out in the Hinds county election.

The Mississippi Legislature

The Legislature, now in session at Jackson, was not without the influence of Christianity upon it; the church had a potential voice in selecting the men to represent their constitutents; there were fifty Baptists, thirty-nine Methodists, fifteen Presbyterians, seven Episcopalians and a few scattered among other churches.

The General Conference

The tenth session of the General Conference was held at Richmond, May 5-25, 1886. J. S. Martin was elected secretary. The Episcopal address was ready by Bishop John C. Keener, and it called for the election of three Bishops. Delegates attending the Conference from this Annual Conference were: Charles B. Galloway, Harvey F. Johnson, Charles G. Andrews, Warren C. Black. Lay delegates were: William L. Nugent, Samuel B. Watts, Thomas A. Holloman, George Harvey.

The new Bishops elected were William W. Duncan, South Carolina Conference; Charles Betts Galloway, Mississippi Conference; Eugene R. Hendrix, Missouri Conference. The ordination service was held on Thursday afternoon in Centenary Church. Each bishop-elect was accompanied to the ordination service by two chosen friends; those who attended the Mississippi Bishop were C. G. Andrews and H. F. Johnson. Bishop McTyeire preached the ordination sermon, and conducted the service of ordination, assisted by Bishops Keener, Wilson, Granbery and Hargrove. The church at Kosciusko adopted congratulatory resolutions on the election of Bishop Galloway, of which place he was a native.

District Conferences

The Conference of the Seashore District was held at Poplarville, June 24-27, B. S. Rayner, P. E., in the chair. H. J. Harris was secretary; Beverly Carradine, of New Orleans, lectured on foreign missions; W. C. Black delivered a lecture on temperance. Delegates to the Annual Conference: R. Babington, J. P. Carter, G. W. Walker, C. H. Wood; alternates, A. P. Cox, Henry Ware, W. F. Ferrill, C. Hudson.

The Brookhaven Conference was held at Wesson, July 1-4, J. M. Weems, P. E., presiding. R. S. Ricketts was secretary. On Sunday Bishop Galloway "preached a pure gospel with power." Delegates to the Annual Conference: J. H. Thompson, R. S. Ricketts, R. W. Millsaps, J. E. Carruth.

The Vicksburg Conference met at Rolling Fork, July 22, W. L. C. Hunnicutt, P. E., presiding. Only five preachers of the district and eight laymen were present. T. A. S. Adams, Centenary; T. C. Bradford, Port Gibson Female College; and A. D. McVoy, E. M. F. College, Meridian, represented their schools. Delegates to the Annual Conference: T. A. Holloman, C. K. Marshall, N. J. Vick, R. C. Kelley.

The Woodville Conference was held at Jackson, Louisiana, August 12-15, J. A. B. Jones, P. E., in the chair. All the preachers were present except one, and twenty-five laymen. Delegates to the Annual Conference: Hon. H. C. Newsom, P. A. Richardson, Hon. G. T. McGehee, Judge F. D. Brame.

The Meridian Conference met at Shubuta, August 26, R. D. Norsworthy, P. E., in the chair. L. P. Brown was secretary. A Central District Parsonage Committee, composed of L. P. Brown, chairman, R. D. Norsworthy, and J. A. Gully, was appointed to locate, select, buy, or build, a district parsonage. Delegates to the Annual Conference: S. S. Cope, J. A. Grant, A. D. Gordon, L. P. Brown. The alternates were: W. I. Heidelberg and J. W. McCormick.

Reports of Preachers in *Advocate* Through June

T. B. Holloman received a hearty welcome to his new appointment at Crystal Springs, and received many courtesies.

H. R. Singleton received a cordial welcome at Yazoo City; when he arrived the fires were burning, the dinner was hot.

J. W. Tinnin, pastor, assisted by W. G. Backus, held services for five nights in Scranton (now Pascagoula), and received fifteen into the church. He was then a member of the Mississippi Conference, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, but some years later he united with the Methodist Episcopal Church, served some weak churches and about twenty years later he united with the Baptist Church, and moved from the State. He was a good man and preacher.

The report by H. J. Harris, pastor, for the Hattiesburg circuit was not very reassuring. The salary assessed was $450.00, the parsonage at Ellisville was unfinished and unfurnished and occupied by one who could not vacate on account of sickness; consequently the pastor's family was scattered. But some progress was being made and light and hope were beginning to dawn. Two weeks later in May, conditions were greatly improved; now they were in the parsonage which had been improved and things put in order. A Prohibition club and the W.C.T.U. were active in the cause. What changes have been wrought in that section: Meetings followed at Hattiesburg by C. H. Lincoln, a visitor, and one at Ellisville by Robert Selby; each had four accessions.

A. P. Cox, local supply on the Whittington circuit, was alive to the missionary interests of the work committed to him, and had sent in one-half of the assessment in May. He was a faithful and useful local preacher, Chesterfield in appearance, and was careful to carry on the work of the Lord to the best of his fine ability. He served the church through many years, and well.

J. T. Nicholson, of Hazlehurst, reported 53 accessions to the church before the year was half gone. He was royally received at Hazlehurst; on his way to the parsonage, the stewards on his arrival handed him two months' salary; a great reception was given; before April the mission assessment was paid in full.

On April 1 came a cheering report from H. P. Lewis, the pastor at Lauderdale, his new charge.

R. S. Gale, of Columbia, also makes a cheering report.

William B. Hines was cordially received at Caseyville, and comfortably situated.

J. H. Evans, pastor, reporting from the Raleigh charge said the second quarterly conference was held at Raleigh, the presiding elder, F. M. Williams, had improved in health and presided with care and ability. One-fourth of the assessment for foreign missions had been sent to D. C. Kelley, Treasurer.

N. J. Roberts, in his first appointment as preacher in charge on North Wilkinson charge, reported having received 23 members up to about June 1, all except two on profession of faith, and 17 more applicants yet to be received.

The Schools—Commencements

Centenary College concluded the commencement services on Monday, June 2; Rev. J. M. Beard, of the Louisiana Conference, preached the sermon. The commencement sermon of Harperville College was preached by C. G. Andrews June 13; this Scott county school was presided over by Messrs. Huddleston and Hunt, most excellent educators.

The commencement sermon of Whitworth College was preached by W. C. Black, June 20; J. T. Nicholson delivered the sermon before the Y. W. C. A. on Sunday night. Dr. Black delivered the address to the Alumnae Association on Monday; Bishop Galloway delivered the baccalaureate address; and in the absence of President Johnson, the diplomas were delivered to the thirteen graduates by C. G. Andrews.

The commencement sermon of Port Gibson Female College was preached by Bishop Galloway on Sunday, June 13, and the Bishop delivered a powerful prohibition address in the afternoon of the same day. The graduates were: Misses Maggie Williams, Julia Howard, Addie Morris, Emma Clark, Julia Gayden, Lizzie Klingman, and Ella Till.

East Mississippi Female College, Meridian, had the commencement sermon by Dr. M. S. Andrews, on June 13. There were nine graduates: Misses Mary E. Estes, Ida V. Smith, Mary Ernest Durham, Lizzie C. Hardy, L. Elizabeth Hughes. Miss Hughes felt the call to missionary work, to which she gave herself for years in China, and at this writing (1945), she still lives at Daleville, Mississippi, honored and loved by all.

Dr. T. S. West, pastor, wrote of the Woodville Female Seminary which had just closed a successful session, with an enrollment of about one hundred. Rev. T. W. Brown resigned as president.

Seashore District High School

"This institute has been organized in Hattiesburg. This is its second session and it is succeeding well with 116 students presided over by Professor E. F. Powell, formerly of Whitworth Female College. We are glad that the Seashore District has thus provided for the education of the youth within its bounds and also that the enterprise will be largely successful."

Answered the Last Roll Call

Misses Lochie and Dora Rankin lost their father by death about the time they reached China as missionaries.

Mrs. Tirzah Cooper, born near Hopkinsville, Kentucky, April 12, 1807, died in Madison county, December 30, 1885. Her maiden name was Ford; she married Robert Cooper in her seventeenth year, later moved to Mississippi and settled near Sharon. She united with the church by baptism administered by John G. Jones.

Mrs. Rebecca Jane Billingslea, nee Ruse, born in Warren county, October 18, 1828, died January 5, 1886. She was an orphan reared by her aunt, Mrs. Caroline M. Bobbs. She was early impressed by this good woman, and joined the Baptist church at 15 in 1843; she married Hon. Walter R. Billingslea, January 19, 1844; and in 1848 she united with the Methodist church.

Rev. L. Carley lost a little daughter, *Loudella*, April 12, 1886; she was dedicated to God by D. A. Little on January 16.

Mrs. Malinda Annie Willing, widow of the late Col. W. J. Willing, of Crystal Springs, died at the home of her son, Philip Willing, at Fort Worth, Texas, January 15, 1886. Born April 23, 1817, she came from Georgia to Mississippi in the early history of the State, was married to W. J. Willing, a merchant at Gallatin, Copiah county, June 30, 1855, and was the mother of ten children. She joined the church at old Crystal Springs, and was a faithful member.

Rev. Middleton Ford, a local preacher of great usefulness, born in Giles county, Tennessee, November 19, 1814, died at his home, January 17, 1886, at the age of seventy-one.

John Byrd, born in Sumter District, South Carolina, January 16, 1791, died in Jackson county, at the residence of his daughter, Mrs. Mary E. Herrington, January 20, 1886, aged ninety-five; he was the son of George Byrd. In 1815 he moved to Alabama for one year, then to Jackson county, on the west side of Pascagoula River. His first marriage was to Miss Nellison Odom, who lived about two years, and he then married Mrs. Nancy McDuffey, and there were born to them nine children. He joined the church at sixteen and was a member for seventy-nine years.

Mrs. Lula V. Ramsay, born in Mobile, March 31, 1851, died May 12, 1886, wife of S. G. Ramsay. Both were converted and joined the church under J. S. Calhoun on the Vancleave circuit.

M. L. Burton wrote the obituary of *Rev. B. D. Sellers*, a local preacher, who died May 25, 1886, at the age of eighty-four. He was born in Horry District, South Carolina, in 1802, moved to Barber county, Alabama, in 1826, was converted at a camp meeting in 1828, and was soon a local preacher; he moved to Clarke county, Mississippi, in 1850, organized the church at Soule Chapel, Clarke county, in 1859. He moved to Copiah county in 1866 and lived there till death. He was married three times, was a member of the church for sixty-four years, and spent all of his time in the service of God and the church.

Rev. R. A. New, a local preacher, died near Rodney, June 14, 1886; he was for some years a member of the Mississippi Conference. His widow was the daughter of Rev. Miles Harper.

Mrs. Charity W. Jordan, born in Virginia, April 26, 1806, moved to Madison county, Alabama, joined the church at twelve, married Dr. Jason L. Jordan, February 19, 1824, died at the residence of Capt. J. H. Jordan in Copiah county, June 23, 1886.

Samuel F. Byrd, born February 14, 1834, died at his residence near Terry, June 25, 1886. Left an orphan, he came to the "New Purchase" and found an employer, Daniel Thomas, on Baker's creek. He married Sarah Ford, February 14, 1854; a faithful worker, exhorter, class leader.

Mrs. Courtney Marcella Wallace, daughter of Peter and Martha Quinn, was born in Holmesville, August 10, 1833; married Dr. Jesse Wallace, March 4, 1850; united with the church soon after her marriage. After the death of her husband she moved to McComb, and there lived till near the time of her death, which occurred at the home of her daughter in Orlean, New York, July 26, 1886. She was a faithful member of the church.

Thomas E. Ainsworth, born August 17, 1862, died at the home of his half-brother near Beauregard, August 17, 1886, exactly twenty-four years of age. His wife died just a short while before; he was received into the church soon after her death by M. L. Burton, who says he professed conversion and determined to live for the service of God. He left two children and by his request they were dedicated to God by baptism.

Mrs. Harry Graves, born in North Carolina, March 9, 1811, died at Hazlehurst August 25, 1886; she was married to William Graves, Esq.; she was converted and joined the church at a camp meeting at old Crystal Springs in October 1844, and lived a devoted Christian all her days.

Mrs. Nancy Lockwood, who was Miss Cottingham, wife of Dr. E. T. Lockwood, born near Lewisville, Georgia, May 5, 1814, died at her home near Crystal Springs, September 7, 1886. She came to Mississippi when a child and settled in the Shady Grove neighborhood near the site of the present Crystal Springs, in 1826, age twelve; and she gave sixty years devoted to God, having joined the church under Rev. Thomas Owens. She was married June 20, 1837.

Mrs. Keziah Rawls, nee Felder, born in South Carolina, 1875, married Jabez Rawls, of Pike county, May 20, 1818, died near Hattiesburg, September 29, 1886. She united with the church when a little girl, and was a model of faithfulness.

Rev. and Mrs. I. L. Peebles lost their daughter, *Mary,* by death; she was born September 4, 1885, and died December 2, 1886, and was buried in Newton.

Miss Dora Rankin, for seven years a missionary to China, died December 10, 1886, at Trinity Home, Shanghai, "ready and willing to go," writes Young J. Allen.

George W. Elliott, born in Marshall county, Tennessee, December 16, 1826, died in Claiborne county, Mississippi, December 17, 1886. He was a professor in Lebanon College, was appointed to a cadetship in West Point and spent two years there, but his health failed, and he moved to Hinds county. He served in the United States Army as a colonel in the Mexican War till its close; he married Mrs. Mary Griffing, daughter of John Hedrick, of Claiborne county, November 10, 1874. On August 25, 1885, he joined the church, and lived a consistent, irreproachable life.

Mrs. Sarah Callender, born in Claiborne county, August 2, 1808, daughter of Rev. James and Rebecca Griffing, died in Jefferson county, near Union Church, December 24, 1886; she was married to James S. Callender, December 27, 1837, and in 1845 moved to Jefferson county and remained there till death.

Camp Meetings

A number of the camp meetings were held this year. The dates can be given approximately: Seashore, July 7; Providence, Thursday before the fourth Sunday in July; Crystal Springs, August 12; Sam Jones, near Gloster, Friday before the first Sunday in August; Topisaw included the second Sunday in August; Palmer Creek was held October 2-7; there were twelve tents on the ground, most of them double; there were thirty-five accessions and probably more conversions. Eleven ministers were present, including local preachers. At Shiloh, as reported by C. McDonald, pastor, there were twenty accessions and fifty or more conversions; on Sunday about a thousand were present, there being preaching both in the church and the tabernacle.

Sam P. Jones

Sam P. Jones, the great and leading evangelist who spent considerable time in this Conference, held a notable meeting at Cincinnati, early in the year.

The time of the camp meeting at Seashore was changed from July 14 to July 7 in order to suit his convenience. The first sermon preached by him at the meeting was from the text, Rev. 22:17, "And the Spirit and the bride say, Come." It was published in the *Advocate* of July 22. Also a sermon was printed in full in the issue of the 29th, on "What shall I do to be saved?" Bishop Keener spoke of the recent meeting as one of the best in its results. A sermon preached by Sam W. Small, co-worker with Sam P. Jones, at the camp meeting, July 14, was published in full. It was a great sermon from Deut. 6:4-9, especially to the young life.

Bishop Charles B. Galloway

Bishop Galloway entered upon the duties as one of the leaders of the Methodist Church, South, following his election at the recent General Conference. The gavel used by Bishop Linus Parker during his three years as Bishop was presented to Bishop Galloway by Mrs. Ellen N. Parker, his widow. A great reception was tendered him at the parsonage at Jackson, where he spent six years of his ministry. The Jewish Rabbi and the Protestant ministers of the city were there, as well as a great stream of callers, from eight to eleven o'clock.

Bishop Galloway visited Georgetown, Texas, to preach the commencement sermon at the University, June 6, 1886. In an article from his pen he tells of his first opportunity in looking upon the Lone Star State and its wide-extended plains.

The Bishop preached before the Canadian Conference in the Metropolitan Methodist Church, Toronto, on September 12. "It was powerful pulpit deliverance and created a profound impression on all who heard it." *The Christian Guardian* said, "His graceful and telling address secured and held the attention of the audience to the close."

The Young People's Column

The New Orleans Advocate continued to have a column for the young people, which was productive of good to the church. Pattie H. Lewis, daughter of H. P. Lewis of Lauderdale, wrote an interesting letter and stated that Lela, her sister, was quite sick.

Homer Casteel, a little boy eight years old, wrote a letter from Walnut Grove.

Master Henry Moore, of DeKalb, won the prize offered by Rev. J. P. Drake, in solving the Scripture puzzle in that column. In December of the same year Henry made acknowledgment of the award of the *Advocate* for answering it correctly, and he said, "Many thanks, Brother Drake, for the noble, generous kindness; you are casting your bread upon the waters to be gathered many days hence. It is but a little boy to whom you are sending the *Advocate* on its mission of love." That little boy turned out later to be Rev. Henry J. Moore, for a long time a member of the Mississippi Conference, an excellent preacher and noble pastor.

More Reports of Pastors From *Advocate*

Robert Selby, of Poplarville, reported a meeting at that place, following the District Conference there, assisted by V. V. Boone and J. M. Gann, a superannuate living at Poplarville. Eleven members came into the church.

T. W. Adams stated that J. W. Chambers was put in charge of the Benton school, and would be associated with him as pastor of the circuit.

C. McDonald, pastor at Morton, had held two meetings—at Clear Creek and Lodobar—at each receiving four members; the church at Cato was being built and it was proposed to build a parsonage.

J. W. Tinnin, of Scranton, had just closed a meeting at Three Rivers, with 10 accessions; 27 members received to date—in August—a new church to be built at Three Rivers; good meetings over the work.

J. C. Long, pastor of Hillsboro circuit, reported three meetings held, with 25 members received, 21 infants baptized this year and three more meetings to hold.

M. J. Miller, pastor of Westville circuit, in a meeting at Pleasant Grove received 46 members; he was assisted by his brother, A. D. Miller, of Trenton circuit.

J. L. Jordan, a local preacher of Whittington circuit, assisted by Alex Scarborough and other local preachers of the community, held a meeting at Waldon School House, and received 15 members, with seven conversions.

Decatur was added to the Newton circuit at the last Conference, wrote I. L. Peebles, pastor. The church building was burned during the Civil War, and since that time it had been inactive religiously. A meeting held there, by Irvin Miller and Murdock McDonald in the beginning, and continued by the pastor, resulted in 33 additions. The new church building would be finished in about a month.

A meeting at Magnolia, J. W. McLaurin, pastor, assisted by

B. F. Lewis, of Adams circuit, and A. F. Watkins, of Brookhaven, lasted 11 days and resulted in several conversions and nine accessions.

R. B. Downer, Providence circuit, had received 61 members to date; he was assisted in meetings by Revs. Benjamin Beeson, T. B. Holloman and A. B. Nicholson.

L. J. Jones, pastor, reported for the Sandersville circuit. A meeting at Holder's church, Jasper county, eight accessions, several conversions; at Liberty two were added; at Union Seminary there were 40 accessions and probably more conversions; he was assisted by J. P. Maxey, a Congregational Methodist Minister, and by E. Cox. Assessments would be paid in full. A meeting was just begun in Laurel, and the total increase at Laurel this month, October, was 46; a total of 86 to date. It will be remembered that this pastor organized the church, which is now the First Methodist Church of that city.

J. S. Parker, now closing his second year on the Sharon circuit, had received 108 into the church; he was assisted in the Sharon meeting by W. B. Lewis, of Canton, and at Madisonville by J. A. Ellis, presiding elder.

The Newton circuit, I. L. Peebles, pastor, was composed of Newton, Garlandsville, Hickman Chapel, Decatur, and Hebron. A meeting at each place was held with good results.

A meeting at Canton where the pastor was assisted by J. T. Nicholson, of Hazlehurst, resulted in 11 additions to the church.

R. F. Witt, pastor, reported about 200 conversions and 125 accessions to the church on the DeKalb circuit; collections in full except for church extension. The parsonage at DeKalb had been furnished, and the second parsonage at Binnsville was being repaired and furnished.

W. B. Hines reported that on the Scotland circuit 101 had joined the church; 34 adults and 56 children had been baptized, with 71 conversions.

Additional meetings reported were: Washington, A. C. Flowers, pastor, assisted by E. H. Mounger and E. A. Flowers, with 21 accessions.

Ira B. Robertson, the pastor at Brandywine, was assisted in meetings on the circuit by C. A. Powell, Dr. W. T. Beall, and local preachers, Dr. C. W. Campbell, Casey Campbell, James T. Leggett, and G. A. Smith, resulting in 50 accessions.

Trenton circuit, A. D. Miller, pastor, reported four meetings held with 41 accessions.

Williamsburg circuit, J. G. Sibley, pastor, reported 68 members received, 38 adults and 31 infants baptized, in five meetings, with four meetings yet to be held.

Robert Selby, pastor at Poplarville, announced that the Lord had aided greatly in the work, with about 60 accessions to the church and all members revived. Messrs. Camp and Hinton, of Lumberton, were the principal helpers in its erection. Mr. Camp was converted and joined the church at the Sam P. Jones meeting at Cartersville, Georgia.

Late in the year a great revival, a union one of all the churches, was held in the Methodist church, Meridian, with preaching led by R. G. Pierson. The pastor, W. C. Black, wrote that there were 216 conversions the first week, and a week later the number had increased to 533. Eighty had been added to the Methodist church, making a total of 174 to date during the year.

B. F. Jones, of Wesson and Beauregard, received 52 into the church and baptized 40 adults at Wesson.

School Notes

Centenary College was for a long time the school that was founded and fostered by the Mississippi and the Louisiana Conferences, and is yet in 1946 a flourishing institution in Shreveport under the direction of the latter Conference. Many of the preachers of both States have been educated there. At the intermediate examinations, among the high grades was that of 93.45, and at another time 97.50 made by Henry W. VanHook, for a long time a member of the Mississippi Conference.

Warren C. Black was honored by the degree of Doctor of Divinity by Southern University, Greensboro, Alabama.

The Montrose High School was established in Jasper county, and in September had just opened the second session.

W. B. Murrah was professor of mathematics, evidences of Christianity, moral and mental science and logic, in Whitworth College. In 1892 he was elected president of Millsaps College, and was at the head of the institution till he was elected Bishop in 1910.

Harvey F. Johnson

Harvey F. Johnson, son of John and Elizabeth Johnson, was born in Buncombe county, North Carolina, January 7, 1831, and died in Brookhaven, August 4, 1886. He came from an old Methodist family, and his father lived in the time of Asbury. He was liberally educated at Emory and Henry College in Virginia, was familiar with the Greek New Testament, and at eighteen he received the degree of Master of Arts. Centenary College conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity, in July 1878.

At nineteen years of age he was licensed to practice law at Raleigh, Smith county, by Judge Wiley P. Harris, and at once took high rank, being elected District Attorney at the age of twenty-three. He was a member of the Legislature, but declined another term as he felt his duty lay in preaching the gospel. He was converted August 13, 1855, alone in the woods, praying; he and his wife joined the church at Westville the same day, at three o'clock.

He was licensed to preach in 1859 by the quarterly conference of the Brookhaven circuit, held at Monticello, John G. Jones being presiding elder, and was admitted on trial into this Conference on November 16 at Jackson, and was appointed to Fayette circuit, with W. B. Lewis as junior preacher, and B. M. Drake, presiding elder. He served circuits till in 1865 he was appointed presiding elder of the Jackson district. He was president of Madison College in 1866, and in 1867 he was elected president of Whitworth College, where he remained for nineteen years.

Martin Anding Bell

Martin Anding Bell, son of Major J. R. Bell and Celeste A. Dunn, was born in Yazoo county, September 28, 1858, and was reared in that county. He graduated from Centenary College with the highest honors of his class. He united with the church in 1875 and was licensed to preach December 6, 1879, W. L. C. Hunnicutt being his presiding elder. He was received on trial into the Mississippi Conference in 1881 and appointed to Westville circuit. This was followed by three years of service on the Silver Creek circuit (now Silver City), and in 1885 he was appointed to Flora circuit, where he died on October 5, 1885. He was ordained a deacon in Natchez in December 1883, by Bishop Kavanaugh, and elder by Bishop McTyeire at Meridian in 1885.

William Spillman

William Spillman was born in Blount county, Tennessee, August 31, 1806. He studied medicine and became a doctor and practiced for twenty-five years in Columbus, Mississippi. He was admitted into the Alabama Conference in 1859 and was a traveling preacher for over twenty-five years, being advanced in age when his name was placed on the retired list. He was interested in and gave attention to botany, conchology, paleontology, and was very fond of exploring caves. He could see God in all things, even in all his creation. He was a member of the Academy of Natural Science and was a geologist of repute. His death took place on December 11, 1886, at Mathersville, near Shubuta. He was above all things an earnest Christian and died well, having the confidence of the brethren and the respect of all who knew him.

New Churches—Dedications

T. L. Mellen reported in March that progress was being made in the erection of a new church in Raymond. This church was dedicated on August 1, 1886, following a sermon by Dr. C. G. Andrews.

The new church at Wesson was dedicated on Sunday, January 24, 1886, by Charles B. Galloway, editor of *The New Orleans Advocate;* B. F. Jones was the pastor. The cost of the building was $3,647; this building was well known to many Methodist preachers, members, and students before it was torn down in 1944. In this building the youthful Lloyd Decell, later Bishop, was converted and joined the church.

The church building at Edwards, I. W. Cooper, pastor, was renewed at a cost of $600. At Centerville, where Parmenas Howard, pastor, had doubled the membership, a new church was begun on November 1, also a new church at Wilson, Louisiana, on the same charge. The building that housed the Meridian church, now Central, was remodeled, during 1886, W. C. Black being the pastor.

The Sweetwater church in Copiah county was reorganized in 1886, W. B. Hines of Caseyville being the pastor, and the church now in use was erected. Sweetwater was one of the two oldest churches in Copiah county, sharing that honor with Old Crystal Springs, both of which date back to 1824. Originally it was a few miles west of its present site, where a cemetery still marks its location. Some time before the Civil War it was moved across into what later became Lincoln county, not far from Caseyville. The organization of the Bethel church at Caseyville absorbed its membership and it ceased to exist until reorganized this year.

Other Items

W. H. Huntley was licensed to preach by the quarterly conference of Jefferson Street church, Natchez, April 26, 1886; in July he was appointed to the Martin circuit, Vicksburg District, to serve until the Annual Conference session in place of A. F. Watkins, who was transferred to the pastorate at Brookhaven.

William L. Linfield, son of Dr. W. E. M. Linfield, of the Mississippi Conference, was licensed to preach, and expected to enter Centenary College next session.

W. C. Black had spent 15 days in bed with a mild case of typhoid fever, but was beginning to recover. Dr. Black in an article from Meridian announced the victory for prohibition in Lauderdale county election. Preceding the election, Rev. J. B. Hathorne of Atlanta, Bishop Mallilieu, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. J. B. Gambrell of Brookhaven, and Rev. J. J. Spellman, an able and cultured colored preacher from Jackson, rendered great service in the cause. No one contributed more to the victory than Dr. Black, a great Prohibition leader.

James A. Newsom, of the Mississippi Conference, and Miss Jessie H. North were married by T. W. Adams, July 1, at the residence of the bride's father at Benton.

On account of the election of the editor, C. B. Galloway, to the office of Bishop, C. W. Carter, of the Louisiana Conference, was elected to succeed him as editor.

CHAPTER XVIII

1887

Conference at Port Gibson

To close the church year 1886 and begin the year 1887, the Mississippi Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, met in Port Gibson, December 15-20, 1886, with Bishop William Wallace Duncan presiding.

This was the second of the three times that the Conference has met in the ancient and cultured village of Port Gibson. At the time of this second Conference in 1886, the Port Gibson Church had a membership of 132, a church building valued at $16,000, a Sunday School with 115 scholars and 12 officers and teachers, and a pastor's salary of $800. D. P. Bradford was the pastor host and T. C. Bradford was the president of Port Gibson Female College. This Conference appointed Edwin H. Mounger pastor for the ensuing year.

There were 113 ministerial members present out of a possible 131, including superannuates, missionaries, transfers, and all. Of the lay members, the 17 present were J. P. Carter, Hattiesburg; G. W. Walker; D. Bunch, Benton; S. S. Cope; T. A. Holloman, Phoenix; G. W. Rembert, Natchez; N. J. Vick, Vicksburg; R. C. Kelly, Port Gibson; Willis Barnes, Crystal Springs; R. W. Millsaps, Hazlehurst; W. F. Millsaps, Bowerton; J. C. Wilkinson, Union Church; R. S. Ricketts, Brookhaven; H. C. Newsom, Greensburg, La.; P. A. Richardson, Jackson, La.; F. D. Brame, Clinton, La.; and R. Babington, Franklinton, La. Twelve lay members were absent, as follows: G. T. McGehee, Woodville; G. R. Kemp, Canton; A. G. Moore, Jackson; Prent. Swayze, Benton; W. T. Stevens, Brandon; T. C. Clark, Cato; W. M. Thornton, Lake; L. P. Brown, Meridian; and C. H. Wood, Moss Point; J. H. Warren, J. A. Grant, Oak Ridge; and R. D. Gordon.

Admissions—Demissions

Seven were *admitted on trial:* Benjamin Magruder Drake, from Jackson, La.; Rufus Aden Breland, Augusta; Joseph N. Ware, Walnut Grove; George H. Galloway, Sharon; William Henry Huntley, Martin; Charlie C. Campbell, Brandywine; and William L. Linfield, Summit. Of these, Huntley and Linfield were destined to see longest service.

James Healey was *readmitted*. William D. Dominick was *received by transfer* from the North-West Texas Conference; Henry J. Harris and David A. Givens were *located* at their own request; Louis Kendall was also *located*.

Superannuates—Supernumerary

The superannuates were W. G. Millsaps, John Lusk, J. N. Williams, E. R. Strickland, D. W. Dillehay, J. M. Gann, G. T. Vickers, J. G. Jones, T. Y. Armstrong, A. B. Stewart, Levi Pearce, David Merchant, Joseph Nicholson, C. F. Gillespie, and A. B. Nicholson.

The venerable Richard Abbey and J. A. Vance were supernumerary.

Ordinations

Victor V. Boone and William W. Morse were ordained local deacons; Jules V. Penn, traveling preacher, and Joseph J. Lovett, local preacher, were ordained elders.

Gains

The increase along all lines during this year was encouraging, and was as follows: Members, 2,494; local preachers, 6; infants baptized, 351; adults baptized, 512; Sunday School teachers, 225;

Sunday School scholars, 1,859. There was a considerable increase in nearly all the assessments paid, and the results indicated a prosperous year. The total membership of all the churches of the Conference passed 30,000 for the first time. The membership report of 30,315 marked another milestone in the progress of the Conference.

A listing of the number of students in the various colleges as reported to the 1886 Conference is interesting: Centenary, 68; Whitworth, 150; Port Gibson, 115; East Mississippi Female, 100; Kavanaugh, 107; and Seashore District High School founded in 1886 at Hattiesburg, 116. This latter school was presided over by Prof. E. F. Powell, formerly of Whitworth College, and had only three teachers in all.

Message to Sunday Schools

Of real interest to present-day Sunday School workers and parents is a part of the report of the Sunday School Board, of which Inman W. Cooper was chairman, as follows:

> "Every agency of the Church is owned and blessed by the Founder; and every sown field yields a fruitage. In no department of church work is the result more patent than in the Sunday-school. The ground not having been planted in tares, the grains of wheat are quicker to ripen in the sunlight of God's truth. We call your attention to the great need of the Sunday-schools.
>
> "Pious and consecrated superintendents and teachers are the great need of the day. It is true, we need teachers who are highly educated, but it is very essential to the permanent prosperity of the schools that the superintendents and teachers have the mind of Christ. Teachers who enjoy the blessed consciousness of redeeming love can easily impart to their classes the exalted truth that the words of Christ are the words of life. Not simply to teach the code of Christian ethics is the duty of the Sabbath-school teacher, but by precept and experience to unfold the spiritual life. Icebergs give out no warmth. Cold, dead teachers never impart life to their classes. If our children are to be established in the doctrines of Methodism, we must insist that our Sunday-schools should be managed by spiritual men and women. It is a

burning shame that in some places men and women are prominent in Sunday-school work who are decidedly worldly people.

"The cooperation of parents is greatly needed. The Sunday-school was not designed to supplant parental instruction, but to crystallize it. It is to be feared the idea of having a Sabbath-school in a community causes some parents to throw off their duty to their children. No Sabbath-school can flourish without the atmosphere of parental responsibility and solicitude.

"Permanent Schools are necessary—not Schools for spring and summer—but Schools all the year. We rejoice in the fact that our Publishing House sends out such inviting literature, and recommend all Sunday-schools to procure our literature. We hope to see the day when our Sunday-schools will have graded classes, and a prescribed course similar to the Oxford League. The great question of the day is: How can the young man be kept in the Schools after fifteen or sixteen years? It is a lamentable fact that few young men and young women over sixteen attend our Sabbath-schools. We respectfully suggest that each pastor make a special effort to interest young men in our Sunday-schools."

Children's Day

At this the first session of the Annual Conference since the General Conference, the Sunday School Board urged the carrying out by all Sunday Schools of new legislation enacted by the General Conference, as follows:

"That the third Sunday in May be set apart as 'Children's Day,' to be observed throughout our Church with appropriate exercises, and on that day a collection be taken up for the aid of needy Sunday Schools, ten per cent of the money collected to be forwarded to the General Conference Sunday School Committee at Nashville, and to be distributed by said Committee. . . ."

Prohibition

In behalf of the Committee on Temperance, Richard Abbey reported that the subject of Temperance was very rapidly assuming "the better form of Prohibition." Prohibition was now legally planted in about one-third of the State and practically as well planted in about another one-third.

The Conference resolved that "it is the duty of every pastor of this Conference to preach in favor of prohibition in the ensuing year and otherwise, by all means within his reach, to make this doctrine popular."

Call to Convert the Negro and the Jew

The Annual Conference urged by resolution that the Presiding Elders hold missionary mass meetings in connection with their District Conferences, and at other places where deemed advisable and profitable; also that all the pastors take their collections for Foreign Missions by March 31.

Significant and revealing are certain paragraphs from the report of the Conference Board of Missions given at the anniversary service:

> "We hail with joy tidings that reach us from many heathen lands. The word of the Lord is running very swiftly. Our Gospel is proving its adaptation to the wants alike of Malay and Mexican, Hindoo and Hottentot, Chinaman and African, American, Indian, and South Sea Islander. The Church we love to represent, takes some part in this glorious movement. We rejoice to notice our standard erected in Japanese soil—a field so white unto the harvest, that we may reasonably expect speedy and large results. Among the fields already entered, encouraging progress has been made. The visits of our Bishops to China, Brazil, and Mexico, appear to be realizing our best hopes. We are thrilled by recent accounts of the power of the Holy Ghost, manifested in the Mexican border Mission Conference, and among the Indians, recently visited by our beloved Galloway. The faithful Missionaries of our own Conference Board bring up cheering news of the victories won over powers of darkness, and of large ingatherings. From the charges aided by this Board, hundreds of accessions are reported and new doors are being opened.
>
> "Yet there is much of the land unpossessed—we are well able to take it. Let us go up in the name of the Lord and possess it. Every preacher in the Conference ought to become a Missionary to the colored people among us. Their need is awful to contemplate. Our duty is urgent and immediate. Our heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel (after the flesh) is, that *they* may be saved.
>
> "An active, intelligent, consecrated preacher, realizing the debt of gratitude we owe to this peculiar and great people—this marvelous, living monu-

ment to the truth of God's Word—could reach the hearts of many of the sons of Abraham's race within our borders. Let us project this subject on the minds and consciences of our people. Let us provide, during the coming year, a special fund for securing this end: The restoring of Jacob to the favor of his God and ours."

Church Extension for Parsonages

The recent General Conference had organized the "Woman's Department of Church Extension" to help supply parsonages for itinerant preachers. On nomination of the Annual Conference Board of Church Extension and election by the Conference, the following became the first officers of this Woman's Department:

Mrs. E. D. Jones, Carlisle, Conference Secretary
Miss Mamie Vick, Vicksburg, Conference Treasurer

District Secretaries

Brandon District	Mrs. Sudie Parker, Brandon
Jackson District	Miss Minnie Barrington, Canton
Meridian District	Miss Addie Purnell, Meridian
Brookhaven District	Miss Gussie Lampkin, Summit
Vicksburg District	Mrs. W. A. Gunning, Natchez
Woodville District	Mrs. Winans Drake, Jackson, La.
Seashore District	Miss Mary Griffin, Moss Point

The Annual Conference set up the personnel of five quadrennial Boards for the new quadrennium. We give here only the names of the laymen on the Boards:

Joint Board of Finance: Geo. H. Peets, J. P. Carter, W. M. Thornton, S. S. Cope, W. L. Nugent, T. A. Holloman, and J. S. Sexton.

Board of Missions: Irvin Miller (local preacher), Pres. Richardson, J. P. Carter, Henry Key, W. L. Nugent, Henry Ware, A. G. Mayers, J. H. Thompson, Geo. W. Rembert, and R. Babington.

Sunday School Board: Geo. Harvey, D. W. Rembert, Irvin Miller (local preacher), R. Babington, L. P. Brown, C. H. Wood, and G. H. Wiley.

Board of Church Extension: W. L. Nugent, Robt. Babington, T. A. Holloman, and W. M. Thornton.

Board of Education: W. L. Nugent, N. J. Vick, W. Bethea, J. W. Belle, J. L. Dantzler, and J. B. Chatfield.

Districts—Presiding Elders

The Conference continued to be composed of seven Districts, with Presiding Elders, as follows: Woodville—J. A. B. Jones; Seashore—Thos. S. West; Jackson—John A. Ellis; Brandon—Duncan A. Little; Meridian—Robert D. Norsworthy; Brookhaven—James M. Weems; and Vicksburg—William L. C. Hunnicutt.

Conference Endowment Fund

A committee was appointed to consider the matter of better support of the Conference Claimants, and to report to the next session of the Conference: *Clerical:* F. M. Featherstun, R. S. Woodward, P. A. Johnston, C. G. Andrews, T. B. Holloman, L. Carley, and J. P. Drake: *Lay:* A. G. Mayers, E. S. Drake, Gen. T. McGehee, W. L. Nugent, L. T. Fitzhugh, J. C. Cavitt, and C. H. Wood.

Joseph Nicholson

Joseph Nicholson was born in Baltimore, November 2, 1811, and died December 20, 1886, on the closing date of the Annual Conference. He moved to Louisiana in 1836, married in 1837, joined the church in 1839, and was licensed to preach in 1840. He became a member of the Mississippi Conference in 1843, served as preacher in charge and presiding elder very acceptably, and was a member of the Conference till his death, superannuating in December 1880. He lived with his wife, who survived him, nearly fifty years. He was buried in Ocean Springs, J. B. Walker preaching from the text selected by him.

Reports From the Field

Early reports stated that W. H. Huntley, licensed to preach last year after serving Martin six months, was sent to Flora, the young town, and had met with encouragement.

A. F. Watkins, pastor, reported in the *Advocate* the splendid condition of the Brookhaven church, which had been repaired. Bishop C. B. Galloway, Dr. W. B. Murrah, and J. M. Weems, P.E., lived there.

J. T. Nicholson reported collections at Hazlehurst paid in full at the first quarterly conference.

V. D. Skipper of Meadville reported that a parsonage had been secured with a garden, cistern, crib, etc., and a parsonage society organized to help furnish it.

H. R. Singleton of Natchez reported his church work improving, with prayer meeting and Sunday School about doubled. A Young Men's Association, Temperance Association, Aid Society, and Missionary Society had been organized; a new parsonage had been projected to be completed by July, and $500 raised to pay the balance on the debt for the organ.

William R. Stuart of Ocean Springs, by whom the Stuart pecan was developed, reported a fine revival at that place. The pastor, G. F. Thompson, was assisted by T. S. West, P. E., R. Abbey, and J. A. Bowen; 15 members were received.

In January, 1887, E. H. Mounger, Port Gibson pastor, wrote an article of appreciation of Port Gibson Female College. T. C. Bradford, just transferred to the Indian Mission Conference, had been president for five years.

G. R. Ellis was appointed pastor of the Covington circuit in place of J. W. Tinnin, just transferred to Texas.

An appeal was made in the *Advocate* by Centenary College, T. A. S. Adams, president and treasurer, for aid for eight young men who expected to enter the ministry.

H. J. Harris started a paper at Hattiesburg called "The Courier."

J. M. Morse, in the second year of his first appointment, Winchester circuit, where he had nine preaching places, reported encouragingly the work of that territory.

Wesson, T. L. Mellen, pastor, and Summit, B. F. Lewis, pastor, had each "cleared the decks," or paid their claims in full for the Conference year—in March. Benjamin Jones, pastor, reported from Long Beach a revival of four weeks at Bay St. Louis, where he was assisted by J. A. Bowen of the North Mississippi Conference, who was residing there for the health of his wife; R. Abbey was also present. Forty-six members were received into the church.

R. J. Jones, of Vicksburg, preached the annual sermon at Port Gibson Female College, June 12, 1887.

A meeting at Ocean Springs closed, the last sermon being preached by J. D. Hays, of Scranton. There were 29 accessions and 70 to 80 professed to be blessed, wrote the pastor, G. F. Thompson, who was assisted by J. P. Drake of Moss Point, J. A. Bowen of Bay St. Louis, and J. D. Hays of Scranton.

In response to the call for aid to young ministers at Centenary College, L. N. Dantzler of Moss Point contributed $50, making $65 from that place this year.

The New Zion church in Amite county was destroyed by fire in April, 1887.

The Paine Loan Fund

Bishop Galloway made an appeal in the *Advocate* for "The Paine Loan Fund" to be raised by the two Mississippi Conferences, as a memorial for Bishop Robert Paine, who for more than 30 years was a resident of this State, and who was buried in her soil.

In February Bishop Galloway and Dr. David Morton, Church Extension Secretary, canvassed for seven days and secured $5,653.60, and hoped to reach the goal of $10,000 for this Fund. Among the places canvassed, and results attained, were: Aberdeen, $1,200; Starkville, $270; Columbus, $570; Macon, $350; Meridian, $755; Natchez, $572; Vicksburg, $579; Greenville, $1,257. Seven thousand dollars were raised during the first two weeks.

William Green Millsaps

William Green Millsaps was born near Pleasant Valley, Copiah county, April 2, 1831. He was from a devout Methodist family, and was converted and joined the church in early life. He was educated at Hanover College in Indiana, and at Asbury, now Depauw University, where he was a leading student. Two years after graduation he was admitted into the Mississippi Conference in 1855, and was assigned to Washington; while on this charge he married Miss Fannie Mayberry, of Jefferson county, August 14, 1857. He served circuits for 11 years, a district one year, stations eight years, and was Sunday School Agent two years. His last appointment was Hazlehurst. Death invaded his body and he passed away February 25, 1887, at Cincinnati while under treatment there. He was buried in Hazlehurst, March 2, 1887.

John Lusk

John Lusk was born in Pittsford Village, New York, July 14, 1818, and died on April 26, 1887, at his home near Clinton; he was buried at Bolton. He came to Mississippi in 1838, and was converted and joined the church and the Mississippi Conference in 1840. He married Miss Ann Eliza Hurst in 1853, and several of his children survive him. He became a leader in the Conference, a member of the General Conference in Nashville in 1858, and was a man of power and influence there.

More About Prohibition

Prohibition was a great issue in the territory of the Mississippi Conference at this time; many contests were held, and many victories won. Bishop Galloway, Chairman of the State Prohibition Executive Committee, summarized the achievements of the past year. Twelve additional counties had been rescued, including Hinds, Lauderdale, and Yazoo among the larger counties; and two-thirds or more of the State were claimed in the prohibition column.

The Brown House, Whitworth College

Bishop Galloway reported the gift of the "Brown House" with adjoining lots to Whitworth College. It had been purchased from the estate of Dr. H. F. Johnson, deceased, who for 20 years was president of the College, by Col. W. L. Nugent and Major R. W. Millsaps, with the exception of $100 contributed by Hon. J. S. Sexton of Hazlehurst.

District Conferences

The Jackson District Conference was held at Edwards March 31-April 2, with Bishop Galloway presiding. Eight members were received into the church under the preaching of the Bishop, Dr. C. W. Carter of New Orleans, C. G. Andrews, G. W. Backman of the North Mississippi Conference, R. S. Woodward, W. B. Lewis, and R. J. Jones, who preached the closing sermon on "Dost thou believe in the Son of God?"

The Brookhaven District Conference met at Brookhaven, April 7, Bishop Galloway presiding. Every charge reported the whole amount of Conference collections asked for, with a surplus for some. A resolution was adopted requesting Bishop Galloway to make his home in Mississippi, pledging to assist in the place of his selection.

The Conference of the Woodville District met at Centerville, April 14, Bishop W. W. Duncan presiding. J. A. B. Jones was presiding elder and Parmenas Howard was pastor. The new church was nearly completed, and after a sermon by the Bishop, a collection was taken on the debt of nearly $600, and more than that amount was raised. Sermons were preached by J. W. Brown, J. V. Penn, Dr. C. W. Carter, and T. C. Bradford, besides Bishop Duncan. Delegates to the Annual Conference were elected: Hon. H. C. Newsom, Joseph Millican, John F. Cassels, R. S. Austin. Clinton, Louisiana, was selected as the place for the next meeting of the Conference.

The Seashore District Conference was held at Ellisville, April 21-24, with Bishop Duncan in the chair. The Bishop appointed Mrs. T. S. West, wife of the presiding elder, as district secretary of the Woman's Department of Church Extension. Dr. E. F. Griffin and Hon. J. P. Carter were elected members of the Board of Trustees of the Seashore Campground. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were J. P. Carter, Rev. H. J. Harris, George W. Walker, and A. K. Worthy. Hattiesburg was selected as the next place of meeting.

The Meridian District Conference was held at Heidelberg, July 28-31, with R. D. Norsworthy, P. E., in the chair. There was but one society of the Woman's Department of Church Extension in the District—at Meridian—with about 75 members.

The Conference for the Vicksburg District was held at Fayette, with Bishop Galloway presiding; W. L. C. Hunnicutt was presiding elder, and D. P. Bradford was the preacher in charge. The Conference subscribed $1,200 for the Paine Loan Fund. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were T. A. Holloman, T. W. Sullivan, Henry Key, and W. O. Watkins.

J. B. McFerrin

Dr. J. B. McFerrin, who had wrought well as a connectional officer of the Church, died in May. This was a great loss to the Church. The funeral sermon by Bishop McTyeire was printed in full in the issue of the *Advocate* of May 26, 1887.

Women and Missions

Miss Elizabeth Hughes of Daleville, Mississippi, was accepted by the Woman's Board of Missions in Nashville as a missionary and assigned to work in China. She had been educated at the E. M. F. College, Meridian.

The Woman's Missionary Society Conference of the Mississippi Conference was held at Enterprise on June 28-30. Mrs. Hayes was president, and Miss Annie Linfield corresponding secretary.

The report of the Society gave a total of $934.00 collected for the year 1886-1887, coming from 39 organizations and individuals. W. C. Black preached the annual sermon on the opening night.

At the last camp meeting at Seashore 65 ladies joined in forming The Ladies Seashore Camp Meeting Auxiliary Missionary Society with officers as follows: Mrs. J. J. Lyons, president; Mrs. J. H. Lakin, Mrs. F. M. Montgomery, Miss Mary Griffin, Mrs. Price Williams, Mrs. R. H. Baker, vice-presidents; Mrs. M. M. Bancroft, corresponding secretary; Mrs. J. A. Lewis, treasurer; and Mrs. Elsie Ahrens, recording secretary.

Commencements

The commencement sermon at Centenary College was preached this year by J. T. Sawyer of New Orleans, and the address to the Y. M. C. A. was given by C. G. Andrews of Jackson. The address to the Alumni Association was delivered by Col. J. F. Sessions of Brookhaven, and the address to the joint session of the literary societies was given by Rev. S. H. Werlein.

Dr. W. B. Murrah, of Whitworth College, was elected to preach the sermon at Centenary in 1888. J. T. Leggett, a student, won the prize for oratory. John Magruder Sullivan was one of the graduates with the degree of Bachelor of Science.

Whitworth Female College announced the following program for the present year: Sermon on June 19 by J. J. Wheat, D.D., 11:00 A.M.; Anniversary of Young Ladies Christian Association, 8:00 P.M., with address by Bishop Charles B. Galloway; Annual address, Tuesday, June 21, by Governor Robert L. Taylor of Tennessee, 10:00 A.M.; Anniversary of the Alumnae Association, with address by Hon. Ethelbert Barksdale, 4:00 P.M. This commencement occasion of Whitworth proved to be a great occasion: the sermon by Dr. Wheat and the address by Gov. Taylor were great, and Major Barksdale met with hearty approval in his proclamation of woman's right to become a bread winner and a wage earner.

Kavanaugh College, Holmesville, at the end of the third session, seemed an assured success, wrote A. F. Watkins. On June 12 F. M. Featherstun, of Brandon, preached the morning sermon, and at night I. H. Anding of Gallman addressed the Christian Association. The orator of the day being absent on commencement day, the Revs. R. W. Merrill and A. F. Watkins were pressed into service. There were five professors and two associates, competent and faithful. There had been a total of 129 students at this session, with prospect for a larger enrollment next year.

Camp Meetings

The Seashore camp meeting began on Wednesday night, July 13, 1887, with the first sermon by J. T. Sawyer of New Orleans; J. S. Rencher of Mobile followed on the next day, and also C. F. Evans and J. A. Parker. After these came the following in order: W. M. Leftwich of Nashville, on Saturday at 8:30 A.M.; T. F. Mangum of Alabama at 11:30; J. A. Parker and W. M. Leftwich, again at night; on Sunday J. S. Rencher at 8:30 A.M., H. C. Morrison of Atlanta at 11:30; W. M. Leftwich at 4:00; and T. F. Mangum at 7:30. More than 90 preachers were present.

The Trustees for Seashore campground were J. H. Lakin of Montgomery, Ala.; William Otis; W. J. Hearin; R. E. Jones of Mobile, Ala.; J. J. Flowers of Bolling, Ala.; Dr. E. F. Griffin, Moss Point, Miss.; J. P. Carter, Hattiesburg, Miss.; W. H. Foster (chairman); E. P. Mackie; J. H. Chapman; B. O. L. Rayne; T. J. Carver; Hugh Jamieson, Jr. (secretary); Phillip Werlein; and H. Haig of New Orleans, La. R. E. Price was the keeper of the campground. The Seashore camp meeting was unique among camp meetings in that it had no pastor but had *three* presiding elders: T. S. West, Seashore District; A. J. Lamar, Mobile District; and John T. Sawyer, New Orleans District. George F. Thompson was pastor of the Ocean Springs, Biloxi, Handsboro, and Mississippi City churches, two of which were on each side of the campground; but there was no official connection between these churches and the camp meeting, which was the joint property at this time of the three districts. It was originally the property of the New Orleans District alone.

The Hennington camp meeting at Crystal Springs had received many improvements; there were more than 30 preachers in attendance. Dr. C. K. Marshall, now above 70, preached with his usual spirit and energy. The opening sermon was preached on Thursday night by C. G. Andrews; C. F. Evans, of New Orleans, and J. S. Oakley, of the North Mississippi Conference, did good service. There were about 35 or 40 conversions; the number of members received was small. There were large congregations; the tabernacle, seating 4,000, was more than filled on Sunday.

The China Grove camp meeting had 25 accessions and 40 conversions. The visiting preachers were J. M. Weems, A. F. Watkins, N. B. Young, R. B. Downer, M. L. Burton, G. H. Galloway, and some local preachers.

The second annual camp meeting at Sam Jones campground near Gloster began on August 26, 1887. The Trustees were A. J. Roberts, chairman; J. F. Cassells, secretary; J. R. Whittington, W. G. Longmire; and J. K. Cobb. John A. B. Jones was the presiding elder and the youthful J. Wilson Brown was pastor.

The St. Tammany camp meeting, on the Covington circuit where G. R. Ellis was pastor, began September 22, and was well attended; five preachers assisted. On Sunday nearly 600 were present, and the sacrament was administered to about 100; a collection of $50.00 was secured to pay the cost of the building valued at $125.00. There were 11 accessions and about two dozen conversions.

The New Prospect camp meeting, Vancleave charge, was directed by T. S. West, P.E., assisted by M. J. Marble, George F. Thompson, A. P. Cox, and other local preachers. There were 94 added to the church this year on the whole charge, and 100 conversions; the parsonage had been repaired and all collections were paid. J. J. Lovett was pastor.

Call for Japan

In response to a call for $1,000 from J. W. Lambuth for the work in Japan, the amount of offerings had constantly risen from $132.25 to $564.20 in July, and in November the amount had risen to $1,034.65.

Bishop Galloway—Dedications

The church at Canton, built in 1878, was dedicated by Bishop Galloway on Sunday, May 5, 1887.

The new Methodist church at Jackson was begun during the pastorate of C. B. Galloway on Monday, July 10, 1882, and the cornerstone was laid September 14, 1882. Work on it was continued under A. F. Watkins and C. G. Andrews, in succession, and it was dedicated by Bishop Galloway on May 15, 1887. Former pastors present for the dedication were John G. Jones, who had preached the first sermon in the old church 50 years before, J. L. Forsythe, W. E. Ballard, G. F. Thompson, J. W. McLaurin, and A. F. Watkins. Officers of the church were C. G. Andrews, pastor, J. P. Stevens, W. L. Nugent, W. L. Hemingway, H. H. Hines, W. H. Whiting, T. P. Barr, A. G. Moore, and George S. Green, trustees. The sermon in the morning was by Bishop Galloway and at night by W. E. Ballard.

Hiroshima and Kobe

J. W. Lambuth wrote of the work in Japan. He and Dr. Duke had labored there a few days with encouraging results; five gave their names as probationers. In January Walter R. Lambuth went there and labored day and night with Dr. Duke, and now there were 10 on probation at Hiroshima, and additions every day; in June it was reported by Walter R. Lambuth that there were 27 souls in the Southern Methodist Church, counting Chinese "and ourselves."

A letter from J. W. Lambuth, written from Kobe, Japan, on February 17, 1887, said that Mr. Sokuma, a native, was especially active in the circulation of Christian books; in his trial in a Buddhist service for being adverse to Christianity, he led 10 persons to conversion who afterwards made public their profession of faith in Christ. His penalty was a fine of about $10.00 and imprisonment for five months. While in prison he continued to witness for Christ, with far-reaching results.

The following letter appeared in the *Advocate* on June 16:

Mr. Editor:

I send a letter which I am sure will interest many of your readers, especially as it is copied for me by a boy of fourteen years only, who has himself been thrust out of doors by a heathen father and mother because of his faith in Christ. That faith remains unshaken. He is genuinely converted and is the most powerful factor in our Kobe church. We number six Japanese members here now, and 14 in Hiroshima. Counting our one Chinese member and ourselves we have 27 souls in the Southern Methodist Church in Japan.

Your brother,
WALTER R. LAMBUTH

Kobe, Japan, May 12, 1887.

The New Orleans Christian Advocate

The Conference Organ, in its issue of February 10, appeared in new type, and with this issue quite an attractive paper was seen. This was the 36th year of its existence. The print was clear and large. James A. Godfrey, W. L. C. Hunnicutt, and T. L. Mellen were the Publishing Committee from this Conference. Dr. C. W. Carter was editor, and Hugh Jamieson, Jr., was publisher.

Charles F. Gillespie

Charles Fox Gillespie was a native of Virginia, born July 11, 1804; he died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. W. J. McRaney, in Polk county, Texas, on July 24, 1887. At the age of 40 he was converted and joined the Methodist Protestant Church in Alabama, and was soon licensed to preach. Although poorly equipped educationally, he soon overcame by hard study, and excelled in preaching, becoming the leading spirit in his Church and filling for years the office of President. He came into the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at the union of the Churches at Meridian during the Conference of 1871. His first appointment after the union was to the Seashore District as presiding elder, and he served it well for four years; then followed pastorates on the Cayuga, Covington, Whittington, East Pascagoula, Americus, and Augusta circuits, 1884 when he was superannuated.

James Nelson Williams

James Nelson Williams came to the Mississippi Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in the union with the Methodist Protestant Church in 1871, and held the supernumerary relationship until his death. He was born an orphan, and his mother died soon after his birth in Charlottesville, Virginia, August 10, 1814. He was converted in his boyhood, but led a wavering life for many years. He came to Mississippi in 1839, then went to Texas but came back in 1840. He lived in Scott county, and there held some of the civil offices of the county.

He joined the Methodist Protestant Church in 1840, was licensed to exhort in 1864 and to preach in 1865, and was ordained deacon in 1867 and elder in 1869. He served in his neighborhood, and was colporteur for the Southwestern Bible Society, in the counties of Scott, Rankin, and Smith. He married Miss Mary A. Wachter in Leake county in 1840. He died in peace on September 6, 1887, at his home, and was buried on Brassell Hill, in the southern part of Scott county, C. McDonald conducting the funeral services.

J. L. Forsythe

James L. Forsythe was born in Ireland, near Portrush, February 4, 1815, and was reared in the home of pious parents. He came to America in the seventeenth year of his life, and engaged in teaching. He was licensed to preach, and was admitted on trial into the Missouri Conference in 1836. After serving two years, he was elected deacon in 1838, being ordained in 1839 by Bishop Soule; he was ordained elder in 1840 by Bishop Waugh. He came to the Mississippi Conference by transfer in 1844, and served continuously without a break until his death on Saturday, September 18, 1887, while serving Madison circuit in the Jackson District.

His first appointment in Mississippi was to Port Gibson, the seat of the Conference. He preached his semi-centennial sermon at Port Gibson, at the Annual Conference held there just nine months before his death. He served circuits, stations, districts, and was for two years president of Fayette Academy. It was through his ministrations that Enoch M. Marvin, later Bishop, was converted. His first marriage was to Miss Maria Theresa, daughter of Captain William Shepard of New Orleans, in St. Louis on November 4, 1841; his second marriage was to Miss Laura Steele of Georgetown, Mississippi, on March 17, 1880. From his first marriage there were seven children, and from the second was a son, for whom his last prayer was offered.

The Final Roll Call

Mrs. Rebecca Goff died near Americus in Jackson county, January 17, 1897. Born on November 10, 1823, she married John M. Goff on February 15, 1852. She was a consistent member of the church for nearly 50 years.

Rev. Willis H. Germany, M.D., died of pneumonia near Johnston Station, January 21, 1887, at his residence. He was licensed to preach about the age of 18, joined the itinerant ministry, and traveled about 14 years.

Mrs. Matilda Wilson, wife of Captain Thomas A. Wilson, died at Port Gibson, February 3, 1887, aged 50 years.

Mrs. Winnie Howze Clark, daughter of Ernest E. and Mrs. Eliza W. Hand, died at Eastabuchie on March 1. Born December 22, 1857, she married on February 24, 1881.

William Henry Chichester, a native of Fairfax county, Virginia, died at his residence in Edwards, Mississippi, on March 9, 1877, aged 37.

William Worthy, a native of Lincoln county, Georgia, died March 11, 1887, aged 90. He moved to Mississippi in 1805, joined the church in 1812, and married Miss Annie E. Langston on March 6, 1823. He had 117 descendants at the time of his death.

Mrs. Charlotte F. LeGette was born in Marion District, South Carolina, April 6, 1816, joined the church when 16, and became the wife of Jesse W. LeGette, an honored and useful local preacher who was ordained by Bishop Capers and Bishop Soule, and who died in Georgia while on his way to Kemper county. Mrs. LeGette died at the home of her son, Bascom LeGette, in Kemper county on March 16, 1887.

George D. Wade, a member of this Conference until the formation of the North Mississippi Conference in 1870, passed to his reward in 1887. W. B. Lewis tells of a meeting conducted by George D. Wade at Pine Grove in 1855, near China Grove, on Magee's Creek. Quinea Lewis lived in the neighborhood. After Mr. Wade preached at Pine Grove several joined the church, and he protracted the meeting with the help of A. B. Nicholson of an adjoining circuit. A great revival followed and among the converted were W. B. Lewis, H. P. Lewis, and two sisters, on Tuesday night. Pearl River circuit was in Lawrence, Marion, and Pike counties.

Mrs. Tennie Elizabeth Foster died on March 24, 1877, at the residence of her brother, H. C. Drexler, near Rocky Springs. She was born March 15, 1852, and married Columbus Foster on April 2, 1876.

Mrs. Susan Evans, wife of Rev. W. G. Evans, died April 16, 1887, at the age of 70.

Gen. Samuel T. Heard, born in Wilkes county, Georgia, on June 6, 1807, died on April 24, 1887. He moved to Mississippi with his parents at the age of seven and settled in Amite county. When grown he moved to Hinds county, after marrying, and lived there till his death. He served in the Civil War and was promoted to brigadier general.

William B. Carter, a useful and efficient man and Methodist, born January 17, 1816, joined the church when 15, married Mrs. Susan Davis in 1854, and was the father of seven children. He died in Jackson county on May 1, 1887.

Mrs. Wilmoth DeWees was born in Carroll county on January 12, 1841, and married F. B. DeWees on March 12, 1864. She was the mother of that staunch layman, F. B. DeWees, who lived near Mars Hill Church in Neshoba county and died in 1944. She died in triumph on May 19, 1887, being buried at Mars Hill church, Neshoba county.

Mrs. Rebecca Jane Enochs, sister of Rev. W. C. Black, was born in Copiah county on December 22, 1833. She married J. F. Enochs on February 15, 1849, and became the mother of ten sons and one daughter. Beginning her church connection and experience in the days of childhood at the Sinai camp meeting in Rankin county, she made a public consecration of her life there and had the testimony of the Holy Spirit. She died at her home in Copiah county on Sunday, May 22, 1887.

Mrs. J. A. Bowen died at Ocean Springs, July 9, after a long, lingering, painful sickness. Mrs. Bowen died in the home of Mrs. W. R. Stuart. Bishop Keener on Sunday at 5:30 P.M. held a remarkably impressive funeral service. She was buried in Holly Springs, leaving her sorrowing husband and a gentle, blue-eyed babe in his arms. This little boy became, in course of time, Dr. C. A. Bowen, head of the Religious Education Department of Millsaps College, and afterwards Editor of Church School Publications, at Nashville, a member of the Mississippi Conference, an influential and leading man in the Church. His father was a member of the North Mississippi Conference.

Sam P. Jones, infant son of Rev. and Mrs. L. J. Jones, at Sandersville, named for the renowned evangelist, died at the age of one year and sixteen days.

Mrs. Mary Jane Decell, born near Monticello, November 11, 1836, daughter of James and Martha Stanfill, moved to Copiah county with her parents at the age of seven, and settled near Pleasant Valley Church; there she joined the church when 16, being soundly converted. She died July 25, 1887.

Mrs. Bertha E. Ratcliffe, was born in Orangeburg District, South Carolina, January 11, 1799. Early in life she married John D. Ratcliffe, who died in 1863. She died at her home near Garlandsville, Jasper county, on August 7, 1887.

Mrs. Mary S. Alford, born in Tennessee on January 29, 1836, died on September 1, 1887, at her home near Johnston Station in Pike county. Her maiden name was Kirk. She married Rev. Daniel M. Wadsworth in 1860, who died soon after marriage. In 1864 she married Seaborn J. Alford.

Mrs. Josephine Barksdale, wife of Fountain Barksdale, was born in Warrenton, Warren county. She joined the church in 1841, married in 1842, and lived in Yazoo City. She died on September 5, 1887.

Mrs. Mary Dudley McLaurin, daughter of Dr. George H. Jones, and his wife, Martha A. Peebles, was born on December 6, 1841, at "Live Oak," the elegant home of her grandfather, Joseph Peebles. She was educated at Nashville Female Academy, graduating in June 1859. On January 3, 1861, she married Cornelius McLaurin, who was killed in the battle of Corinth on October 9, 1862. She united with the church under J. M. Weems in 1868 or 1869.

Thomas Coleman was born in Virginia on September 12, 1802. He married Miss Eliza Douglas Cage of Tennessee, on October 19, 1826, and moved to Madison county in 1831 where he remained till his death. He was for 40 years a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. He died on September 8, 1887.

Dr. N. J. Shurley was born near Macon, Georgia, March 9,

1819. He was twice married: he spent his life as a member of the Methodist Church, and left a well-worn Bible. He died near Adams church in Lincoln county on September 11, 1887.

George W. Parker, born in Jackson, August 18, 1835, moved to Vicksburg when 21, but soon moved to Yazoo City and remained there till his death on November 15, 1887, at the residence of his father-in-law, 17 miles north of the city. He was twice married, and left one child by each marriage.

Dr. T. J. Henderson, born in Courtland, Alabama, March 25, 1820, died at Woodville on November 25, 1887. He graduated in medicine in the Medical College, Louisville, Kentucky. Being of pious parents, he joined the church early in life, and was converted in a protracted meeting in Noxubee county. He moved to Woodville in 1852 and practiced medicine there for 35 years.

History of Methodism

John G. Jones announced that the first volume of the *History of Methodism in Mississippi* would soon be off the press. He and his son, J. A. B. Jones, had spent nearly $600 out of their personal funds. It was announced late in July that the first volume, 1799-1817, had come from the press at our Publishing House.

More Reports from the Field

In April it was reported that Rankin county won for prohibition by a vote of three to one.

The work at Pearlington was being honored of God and was improving in all departments under the ministry of W. D. Dominick.

Robert Selby, pastor of the new appointment, West End, Meridian (now Fifth Street), reported that they had organized with nine members. A meeting, assisted by I. L. Peebles, resulted in six accessions, and others had been received to make a total of 28 members on roll.

J. W. McLaurin, pastor at McComb, was appointed Agent of the American Bible Society for Louisiana and Mississippi, with headquarters in New Orleans. He entered upon this work on May 15 at the Bible House on Camp Street. J. D. Crymes, a B.D. graduate of Vanderbilt University, was appointed to succeed him as pastor at McComb.

The District Conference at *Centerville* was followed by a revival meeting resulting in 24 additions, the pastor being assisted by L. S. Jones and C. D. Cecil.

Geo. H. Galloway, pastor of the *Columbia circuit* of eight appointments, reported that collections for missions were being taken with good response. There were three Sunday Schools, and three churches and a parsonage were to be built this year.

J. N. Ware reported from *Pea Ridge,* Neshoba circuit, Brandon District, that he had a charge of eight churches.

R. A. Breland, pastor of *Bethel circuit,* in Jones and Covington counties, which was composed of seven appointments, reported that there was a very good Sunday School at each place, and that he had received seven members to date.

The residence of Rev. G. F. Thompson at *Ocean Springs* burned on May 17.

J. N. Tucker, pastor of the *Poplarville circuit,* wrote hopefully of the work. He had organized another young men's prayer meeting, at Purvis, and now had five Sunday Schools. A Woman's Christian Temperance Union had been organized at Poplarville with 60 members.

C. McDonald gave an encouraging report from *Hillsboro circuit.*

R. B. Downer announced that it was impractical to hold the *Providence camp meeting* this year.

T. L. Mellen, pastor, stated that during the meeting at *Wesson,* where he was assisted by P. A. Johnston and J. T. Nicholson, 15 were received into the church, 13 more were waiting to be received, and six infants were baptized during the meeting.

George Bancroft, pastor of the *Terry Circuit,* reported that his work was composed of six regular churches and seven Sunday Schools; there were three Woman's Missionary Societies, class and prayer meetings, and there had been a number of accessions.

B. F. Jones received 20 new members to date this year at *Woodville.*

T. W. Adams reported a good meeting at *Ellisville.*

The meeting at *Beauregard,* where T. L. Mellen, pastor, was assisted by several brethren, resulted in 56 conversions, 23 applications for membership, nine infants baptized, four called to preach, and three called to foreign mission work. One of these was evidently Miss Clara Chrisman.

M. L. Burton, pastor of *Adams circuit,* had three church organizations, 400 members, many class-meetings and prayer-meetings, five Sunday Schools, 25 received by letter and profession, and 23 new subscribers to the *Advocate.*

J. M. Morse, pastor of *Winchester circuit,* reported in August a fine meeting with 16 accessions; there had been 28 to date.

H. P. Lewis of *Lauderdale* reported progress on his charge with 20 or 30 additions thus far this year, and many bright conversions. He had sold a lot of Bibles, hymnbooks, and *Disciplines.* Another meeting in which he was assisted by the Rev. Mr. Cunningham, of the North Mississippi Conference, and Robert Selby, of Meridian, resulted in 15 additions.

R. S. Woodward of *Yazoo City* had been urging missions and had collected $40 on the self-denial week. A Woman's Missionary Society, a Juvenile Society, and a Y. M. C. A. had been organized with good prospects.

At *Brookhaven,* A. F. Watkins, pastor, the church had been aroused on the subject of missions, spiritual life had been quickened, and on the missionary debt $90 had been raised during the special week of prayer and self-denial, August 14-19.

At *Crystal Springs,* T. B. Holloman, pastor, the special week was observed and the amount of the self-denial fund was $50.

At *Moss Point* J. P. Drake reported that after due cultivation the sum of $114 was raised on the self-denial offering.

E. F. Edgar of *Waynesboro circuit* reported that the week of self-denial and prayer was observed, *Waynesboro* contributing $22 and *State Line* $13. After a stirring talk by R. D. Norsworthy, P. E., a Woman's Society was organized with 10 active and nine honorary members: Mrs. E. W. Hand, president; Mrs. J. B. Petty, vice-president; Mrs. E. J. Davis, secretary; and Mrs. A. Lou Edgar, treasurer.

Peter James, a layman of *Bee Lake,* wrote a letter telling of the work being done in that "benighted, semi-heathen swamp country," where they were searching for the wandering sheep.

H. D. Howell, *Rocky Springs* circuit, had held two meetings of short duration. At *Hickory Ridge* there were five accessions, and at Center Grove, 13; by September there had been 25 conversions and 26 accessions.

J. H. Evans reported from *Montrose* the reception of 41 members in three meetings, and 17 children were baptized.

W. B. Hines of *Caseyville* reported progress on his circuit; 25 members had been added, and a new church would probably be completed by the middle of October. The school at Caseyville, under Professor W. G. Forsyth, was a success, and he would continue next session.

L. P. Meador reported *Marvin* circuit as having a series of good meetings, resulting in 45 accessions, with more to follow.

B. S. Rayner, *Enterprise* and *Heidelberg* pastor, raised $31 self-denial fund, after having paid foreign missions in full.

John G. Jones gave a description of the Sam Jones Campground at Clayton Springs, near Gloster. It was beautiful for situation, and had many improvements over last year. A number of preachers were on the ground doing faithful work; there were some bright conversions and valuable accessions.

R. B. Downer, *Providence circuit,* reported three meetings, more than 30 conversions and 12 additions.

L. J. Jones, *Sandersville,* reported an excellent meeting in which he was assisted by A. D. McVoy, J. P. Maxey of the Congregational Methodist Church, and J. R. Zachary. Congregations were large, with eight accessions and a spiritual feast.

R. S. Gale reported a protracted meeting at *Sartin's Church,* the present Sartinsville, with seven accessions, where he was assisted by Wm. Hoover, W. M. Stevens, and N. E. Alford.

On *Stonewall circuit,* J. R. Zachary, the supply pastor, was assisted by B. S. Rayner and L. J. Jones, and there were 18 accessions.

Poplarville, J. N. Tucker, pastor, reported four accessions.

Hillsboro, C. McDonald, pastor, had 25 accessions.

Adams church, M. L. Burton, pastor, had 40 accessions.

St. Helena circuit, J. W. Ellison, pastor, had 38 accessions.

Monticello, William Hoover, pastor, had 68 accessions, and reported 30 infants baptized.

Hazlehurst, J. T. Nicholson, pastor, reported 25 accessions.

Raymond circuit, W. E. Ballard, pastor, had 15 accessions in four meetings, assisted by W. B. Lewis, J. S. Parker, and F. M. Keen.

On *Franklinton circuit,* J. G. Sibley, the pastor, was assisted by N. B. Young, and a meeting resulted in six additions. By November the charge had received more than 100 new members.

Flora circuit, with W. H. Huntley, pastor, raised $15 for a self-denial offering and more than $300 for church repairs.

Scranton, J. D. Hays, pastor, was composed of three appointments. There were 13 additions this year.

At *Moss Point,* with J. P. Drake as pastor, a meeting was held by J. A. Bowen and J. H. Beville, singer; it was continued on Thursday by J. D. Hays after the helpers had to go to other appointments, and 14 were received.

A report by George Bancroft, pastor *Terry circuit,* said that a parsonage was to be built at *Gallman* which had a good house of worship built this year; another church was to be built on the circuit. There were three Woman's Missionary Societies and one Juvenile Society. The sum of $27 was raised during the week of self-denial.

Bethel circuit, R. A. Breland, pastor, held a meeting at each church, seven in all, and there were 85 accessions. This year this circuit sent nine new subscriptions to the *Advocate.*

At *Ocean Springs,* a meeting was begun on Thursday night, December 15, by J. A. Bowen, with J. H. Beville leading the singing, which resulted in 23 accessions; a Sunday School was organized on the fourth Sunday with 54 members. There had been 115 accessions during the year.

Paulding circuit, J. C. Brogan, pastor, had over 100 conversions during the year, with 30 accessions. There were eight Sunday Schools, five Woman's Missionary Societies, and one Wesleyan Society; and 22 new subscriptions were sent to the *Advocate.*

Enterprise and *Heidelberg* showered their pastor, Benton S. Rayner, with a great inflow of good things at the parsonage. J. T. Nicholson of Hazlehurst assisted in the meeting at Enterprise in which there were 23 accessions. Late in the year the pastor, B. S. Rayner, said that there had been 40 accessions to date, 29 children baptized.

Other Items

Dr. W. M. Leftwich, one of the preachers at the Seashore Campground, wrote appreciatingly of the camp meeting and said that 100 preachers were present, and the meeting was one of the best he ever attended.

D. P. Bradford, in planning to take charge of the Stewards Hall at Centenary College, estimated that board and other expenses for the new session would be reduced to $12.50 or $13.00 per month. Many new students were expected.

CHAPTER XIX

1888

Conference at Jackson

The Mississippi Annual Conference was held at Jackson, December 14-19, 1887, Bishop John C. Keener was the president for the third time.

The secretaries remained the same as last year, and on roll call it was found that there were 91 preachers and 23 laymen present. The time for business sessions were fixed to begin at 9:30 A.M. and to adjourn at 1:30 P.M.

Admissions—Transfers

Nine were *admitted on trial:* Robert Wilson Tucker, East Baton Rouge; Frances M. Keen, West Jackson; James M. Cowan, Madison; William P. Jones, Madison; Paul M. Jones, Forest and Morton; Bourbon H. Rawls, Walnut Grove; Walton P. Meador, Marvin; James G. Cammack, Walnut Grove; and John D. Crymes, Holmesville.

Joseph J. Lovett in the class of the third year, was *readmitted.* J. W. Tinnin was *transferred* to the East Texas Conference and Thomas C. Bradford to the Indian Mission Conference, and appointed to Chilocco School. He had been president of Port Gibson Female College.

Ordinations

Traveling preachers who were ordained *deacons* were James G. Sibley, Albert C. Flowers, J. Herbert Woodward, Robert Selby, James A. Newson and Martin L. Burton; Local preachers: Jacob C. Long and Thomas B. Reagan.

Traveling preachers who were ordained *elders* were Henry Lee Scarborough, Andrew D. Miller, Mark H. Moore, Robert F. Witt, Benjamin F. Lewis, Alexander F. Watkins, Thomas L. Mellen, William G. Backus, Samuel J. Cotton, Virgil D. Skipper, and J. Wilson Brown.

Conference Endowment Fund

The 1886 Annual Conference had appointed a committee to consider the possibility of establishing a fund, the interest from which would be distributed to the Conference claimants, and this committee reported favorably at the 1887 Conference. Trustees of this Endowment Fund had been named as follows: C. G. Andrews, J. P. Drake, F. M. Featherstun, B. F. Jones, R. J. Jones, T. L. Mellen, and B. S. Rayner. At the Conference of 1887 these trustees elected as follows: T. L. Mellen, president; B. F. Jones, vice president; C. G. Andrews, secretary; and C. G. Andrews, treasurer.

An act of incorporation was carefully drafted by Hon. W. L. Nugent, prominent layman and lawyer of Jackson, passed by the legislature and duly approved by the governor on March 7, 1888.

John Cornelius Brogan

John Cornelius Brogan was born in County Clare, Ireland, June 24, 1823. He was of a Roman Catholic family and brought up in that faith, and was clerk in a Roman Catholic Church from the age of ten. An apt young man, he was educated for the priesthood, but never filled that office. On January 2, 1848, he sailed for America, and for a time was employed in the New Orleans customhouse. In 1850 he settled in Fayette County, Alabama, and was employed by a Mrs. Stuart, who so impressed him that he attended a Protestant church, and began to read the Bible and was a diligent student of it, eagerly reading it through.

In April 1853, he was converted and joined the church under Rev. S. H. Cox, of the Alabama Conference. In November 1856, he was licensed to exhort, and in May 1857, he was licensed to preach. In 1858, he was admitted on trial into the Alabama Conference, at Macon, and appointed to Jasper circuit. The next year he was on the Columbus circuit as Junior preacher, at the close of which year he located.

He was ordained deacon by Bishop Andrew at Montgomery in 1860 and elder by the same Bishop in 1864. He married Miss Mattie L. Davis, daughter of Rev. John H. Davis, of Fayette County, Alabama, on May 17, 1854, and to them were born ten children, eight of them and the mother surviving him.

In 1866, he was readmitted into the Alabama Conference and served till 1870 when he was transferred to the Mississippi Conference together with that part of Mississippi then in the Alabama Conference, and served 17 years in Lauderdale, Neshoba, Clarke, Wayne, and Jasper counties. He died at Rose Hill in Jasper county on January 12, 1888, being pastor of the Paulding circuit.

Woman's Missionary Society—Call for Workers

J. W. Lambuth, our missionary, called for more workers for Japan, after receiving an urgent letter from his son, Walter R. Lambuth. The treasurer's annual report, March 1, 1887, to March 1, 1888, of the Woman's Missionary Society, Mississippi Conference, showed a total of $1,693.24 collected for the year. Mrs. Annie Demoss was treasurer. The Mississippi Conference Woman's Foreign Missionary Society held its annual meeting at Wesson, June 25. The address of welcome was delivered by Miss Clara A. Chrisman of Beauregard, and the response was made by Miss Mary McClelland of Whitworth College. Mrs. Chatfield of Meridian was president.

District Conferences

The Conference for the Brandon District met at Newton on April 26, 1888, with P. A. Johnston, P. E., in the chair. Every pastoral charge was represented, and every preacher except one was present. On April 25 a Sunday School Convention was held in connection with the Conference. Participants in the Convention were A. D. Miller, who preached on Tuesday evening, and R. A. Sibley who delivered a sermon the next evening. Addresses were made by C. McDonald, D. G. W. Ellis, F. M. Featherstun, J. G. Cammack, I. L. Peebles, W. W. Cammack, L. P. Meador, J. N. Tucker, Irvin Miller, P. M. Jones, and P. A. Johnston. The Montrose High School was adopted as the District High School.

The Brookhaven District Conference met at Summit on April 13, with Bishop Keener presiding. The opening sermon was preached by H. D. Howell. All the preachers were present, and W. B. Lewis and J. W. McLaurin were visitors. B. F. Lewis was secretary and R. S. Ricketts, assistant.

The Woodville District Conference convened in Clinton, Louisiana, on April 19 with Bishop Keener presiding. The Bishop preached twice during the Conference, Saturday and Sunday. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were H. C. Newsom, G. T. McGehee, G. H. Packwood, and John F. Cassels.

The Jackson District Conference met at Raymond on Thursday, June 21, with D. A. Little, P. E., in the chair. Emmett L. Ross, lay delegate from Canton, was elected secretary, and Rev. J. H. Woodward, of Anding circuit, assistant. Sermons were preached by C. A. Powell, W. B. Lewis, C. G. Andrews, Ira B. Robertson, R. S. Woodward, and Dr. Price of the Presbyterian Church. Visitors were P. A. Johnston, who represented Centenary College, and Mrs. E. D. Jones, secretary of the Church Extension Department of the Woman's Missionary Society. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were D. Bunch, W. L. Nugent, George Harvey, and J. W. Ratliff.

The Meridian District Conference was held at Lauderdale, having been changed from Lockhart, July 27-29, R. D. Norsworthy, P. E., in the chair. L. Carley was secretary and D. W.

Heidelberg, his assistant. There were 12 pastors and 12 lay delegates present. P. A. Johnston presented the claims of Centenary College and raised $500.00 for endowment. Rev. R. M. Saunders, the new president of E. M. F. College, was present and won increased interest in the school. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were T. P. Bell, S. S. Cope, W. W. Moore, and S. B. Watts; alternates were A. M. Moore and D. W. Heidelberg.

Reports from the Field

E. H. Mounger was president of Port Gibson Female College. He was also pastor at Port Gibson.

The Jackson District Parsonage was located in West Jackson on January 25, 1888, and the committee called for $1,500 besides the lumber and lot, said I. W. Cooper, chairman.

T. W. Adams, of *McComb*, had a delightful meeting, assisted by J. M. Weems and F. M. Keen.

T. L. Mellen reported from Wesson in early March that the deck had been cleared at Wesson and Beauregard, and 15 received since Conference.

Covington circuit in the Seashore District had a net gain of 50 members under the pastorate of G. R. Ellis. A new church was in course of construction.

C. C. Campbell, successor to the late J. C. Brogan on the *Paulding circuit,* wrote very hopefully of the work recently laid down by the former pastor.

Harrison Bradford, pastor, expressed gratification, thanks and hope on the *Meadville circuit;* there were three Sunday Schools, two Ladies' Aid Societies.

W. B. Murrah, of Whitworth College, reported a very gracious and successful meeting in progress in *Brookhaven.* A. F. Watkins, pastor, was assisted by C. G. Andrews during the first week and by W. B. Lewis the second week. Nearly all the student body were profoundly affected. The approaching commencement sermon would be preached by Bishop Hargrove on June 17. Rev. R. G.

Porter of the North Mississippi Conference, would address the Young Ladies Christian Association; Hon. J. R. G. Pitkin, of New Orleans, would deliver the annual address; and Hon. H. S. Van Eaton would deliver the address before the Alumnae Association.

Bay St. Louis raised $36.20 during the week of prayer and self-denial. J. W. McLaurin, Agent of American Bible Society, presented the Bible cause on Sunday and raised $52.00 to organize a county society for the distribution of the Bible in that section.

W. W. Simmons reported a meeting at *Hattiesburg* with good results, including 20 accessions. He was assisted by J. D. Hays and D. C. Langford. The amount for self-denial was $20.00.

J. D. Hays, the useful and the blind preacher and pastor, reported from *Poplarville* that he found himself among strangers, but surrounded by friends. There were three principal appointments, Poplarville, Lumberton, and Purvis.

Deaths

Mrs. Thursa Ann Lambin, nee Kilgore, born in Jasper county, Georgia, May 1, 1819, died at her residence, Summit, December 26, 1887. She joined the church when 15, and was a member more than 50 years. She married at Columbia, Georgia, November 14, 1835, John T. Lamkin, a young lawyer, and came to Mississippi in 1840 and located at Holmesville, the county seat of Pike.

Mrs. Margaret Jones was born in Marion District, South Carolina, January 16, 1808. She married Samuel Jones, January 23, 1827, and the same year professed religion and joined the church. She moved to Wayne county, Mississippi, in 1836, and there died triumphantly on January 20, 1888.

James M. Smith was born in Marion county, Alabama, March 28, 1833. In early life he moved to Mississippi and settled in Lauderdale county; he married Elizabeth Vick in 1862 and settled in Kemper county, and remained there the balance of his life. He died in triumph of the Christian faith, January 30, 1888.

Miss Lillie Brogan, daughter of the late Rev. J. C. Brogan, born December 8, 1869, died at Rose Hill, Jasper county, February 11, 1888.

Mrs. M. E. Sexton, daughter of W. J. and Celia Wilson, was born in Copiah county, March 20, 1857. She was converted at 16, joined the church at Bethesda, and was a consistent member till her death on February 14, 1888. Her college life was spent at Whitworth. She married J. S. Sexton on September 29, 1875, and became the mother of two children.

Dr. Thomas Heath Moody, of Cross Roads, Jackson county, died of heart disease, February 26, 1888. He was born in Maury county, Tennessee, December 20, 1826, and graduated at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in 1851; and was married on October 26, 1851, to Miss Elizabeth C. Knott. He and his family joined the Methodist Church at Cross Roads in 1883, among 50 who joined in a week's revival.

John Wesley Vick, second son of Rev. Newitt Vick, founder of Vicksburg, died in triumph on March 2, aged 82. Born in Jefferson county at the old homestead, he was educated at Transylvania University, Kentucky. He was a member of the church for about 60 years.

Mrs. Mary Covington, wife of Judge William Covington, was born in Wayne county about 1810, died at her residence, near Quitman, March 2, 1888. Joining the church about 1856 under the ministry of P. H. Napier, she lived and died a Christian.

Mrs. Caroline Thompson, nee Duckworth, was born June 30, 1828, married Benjamin Thompson, July 10, 1845, and died near Lake Como, Jasper county, March 5, 1888. Soon after her marriage she was happily converted and joined the church and henceforth lived a Christian.

Mrs. Ann H. Harper, daughter of Col. John Smith, was born in North Carolina on April 25, 1831, and moved to Scott county and married James C. Harper in 1855. She lived in Forest since 1866.

Major Leonard X. Barber, born near Utica, New York, April 28, 1816, died a member of the church at Woodville, April 1, 1888. He came to Woodville in 1837.

Mrs. M. C. Hardy, daughter of T. and M. E. Chapman, born in Jasper county, died in Paulding, June 6, 1888. She was married to W. R. Hardy on February 23, 1880. She joined the church in early life and was a consistent member till her death.

Dr. Peter Taylor died in Buccatunna, July 22, 1888, aged 54. He joined the church in early life and remained faithful till death; he was a genial, popular, skillful practicing physician, and drew all classes to him; the church lost greatly in his demise.

Mrs. Hattie Carpenter, daughter of Rev. Samuel and Laminda Dilly, born January 1, 1854, died at her residence near Phoenix in Yazoo county on August 3, 1888. She joined the church in the days of her childhood, and married Willie Carpenter, of Warren county, December 10, 1879.

Mrs. W. H. Huntley, daughter of Rev. Simon Peter Richardson of the Georgia Conference, died on August 30 at Flora, where her husband was pastor. She was an interested and faithful worker in the church, especially in the Sunday School and the missionary cause.

Dr. James A. Hunt, a leading member of the church at Vicksburg, where R. J. Jones was pastor, died late in the year. He married Mary V., daughter of Rev. E. G. Cook, and settled in Vicksburg where he practiced medicine for 20 years most extensively. He was a surgeon in the Civil War.

Mrs. Drusilla Holland was born in South Carolina, October 8, 1802. She united with the church in 1816, and lived a Christian for 72 years. She died in peace at Marion, at the home of her son, J. H. Holland of the Mississippi Conference. Her maiden name was Dearman; her husband was a local preacher for many years.

Miscellaneous

An interesting, important and strong letter from Hon. Richard F. Reed, of Natchez, about the duties of stewards, appeared in the *Advocate* on March 15, 1888. A staunch Methodist and good man, he became a justice of the supreme court of the State.

Shubuta suffered a loss of about $50,000 damage by fire in the heart of the town, March 11.

W. B. Hines was seriously hurt on the railroad near Sartinsville on May 24. At his request Bishop Keener released him from the pastorate for the year, and appointed W. L. Linfield pastor to succeed him on the Providence circuit.

T. L. Mellen delivered a discourse at the Brookhaven District Conference on "Obligations and Objections"—a missionary sermon which was published by request of the Conference, and was commended by Bishop Keener.

Dr. Warren C. Black issued his book, *Christian Womanhood,* late in the year, through the Publishing House in Nashville.

T. L. Mellen, chairman of the committee of the Mississippi Conference, appeared before the North Mississippi Conference on the project of establishing a Mississippi College for young men, and invited the cooperation of that Conference.

More Reports from the Field

Wesson and Beauregard contributed $76.15 as a result of the week of prayer and self-denial. *Pearlington* contributed $36.75.

V. D. Skipper, pastor, reported from *Mayersville* that he and his family had been well received. There was but one church in the county, but another was being built at *Hay's Landing*.

Ira B. Robertson, of the *Camden circuit,* reported progress in his charge.

Robert Selby, pastor of *Martin circuit,* gave an encouraging report of his own work in that he had organized three Sunday schools in his charge for four churches.

George H. Galloway, of *Columbia circuit,* reported the parsonage nearly completed in June. For the week of self-denial $47.00 had been collected, and $61.00 for foreign missions; ten had been received into the church.

D. C. Langford, pastor, reported the *Vossburg circuit* as doing well, a good Sunday School at every appointment.

T. S. West, presiding elder, reported the work of the Seashore District, and tells of a visit to Norvilla Collegiate Institute, which was under the direction of that cultured Christian gentleman, Professor C. F. Emery.

As usual, a great many meetings were held throughout the Conference, resulting in much good and the addition of many members:

Fannin, J. N. Tucker, pastor; things going well, pastor over half paid in July; interesting Sunday Schools; Children's Day, $12.10.

Ellisville, W. W. Simmons, pastor; new seats in church, great revival, assisted by W. W. Cammack, J. N. Ware, and W. P. Meador; 25 accessions.

Conehatta circuit, J. G. Cammack, pastor; 250 members, with 44 subscriptions to the *Advocate.*

Enterprise, B. S. Rayner, pastor; a great revival, assisted by H. D. Kimball of New Orleans; six accessions.

Amite circuit, M. L. White, pastor; 20 accessions, 12 subscriptions to *Advocate,* self-denial offering $7.00. Building new churches at *Mt. Vernon* and *Cedar Grove.*

Chunky, a meeting in July with 14 accessions reported by P. H. Howse, pastor of Meridian circuit.

Wesson, a great meeting with 33 conversions and 16 accessions, reported by T. L. Mellen.

Salem, on the *Shiloh circuit,* a meeting with seven accessions; at *Clear Creek,* now Puckett, a nice new church, nine accessions. On the circuit 34 accessions by August with five more meetings to be held. A. D. Miller, pastor, was assisted by N. M. Clark,

J. H. Foreman, Ira B. Robinson, Lewis Kendall, R. A. Sibley, and local preachers.

Camden, Ira B. Robertson pastor; nine accessions, assisted by C. A. Powell and W. B. Lewis.

Fannin, eight accessions, three infants baptized.

Waynesboro, E. F. Edgar, pastor; meeting at New Hope, 30 accessions, 40 conversions.

Madison circuit, J. A. Newson, pastor; assisted by I. W. Cooper, 11 accessions.

Rolling Fork and Cary, W. D. Dominick, pastor; to date 45 accessions, 15 of them from a recent meeting at Cary, assisted by R. J. Jones of Vicksburg and J. W. Harmon of Anguilla.

Walnut Grove, W. W. Cammack, pastor; now in third meeting, 34 accessions, assisted by W. W. Simmons, I. L. Peebles, D. G. W. Ellis, J. G. Cammack, and Messrs. Miller and McDonald, local preachers.

Meridian circuit, L. J. Jones, pastor; three good meetings: *Spring Hill,* eleven members; the second meeting, five members; at *Suqualena,* six members. The churches were revived under the preaching of P. H. Howse. He was the brother-in-law of the pastor, having married his sister, Miss Fannie.

Paulding circuit, C. C. Campbell, pastor; in three protracted meetings, 18 accessions and 50 conversions.

Waynesboro and State Line, E. F. Edgar, pastor; ten-day meeting at State Line, five additions, others to follow, assisted by W. B. Hines of Binnsville.

Brookhaven, where A. F. Watkins was pastor in his fourth year, had a meeting with 35 accessions. J. A. Bowen of the North Mississippi Conference did the preaching.

Orange Grove, Scranton circuit, where Benjamin Jones was pastor, had a meeting assisted by T. S. West, P. E., till Wednesday, and continued by the pastor till Sunday night.

Commencements—Our Schools

The annual sermon of Centenary College was preached by W. B. Murrah, of Whitworth College Faculty, and the College conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity on him and also upon Rev. Beverly Carradine of New Orleans. The Board of Trustees unanimously elected Dr. W. L. C. Hunnicutt, of the Mississippi Conference, president.

The sermon for East Mississippi Female College was preached by Dr. Beverly Carradine on June 10. S. B. Watts, president of the Board of Trustees, announced the election of Rev. R. M. Saunders, of Norfolk College, Virginia Conference, as president. Dr. A. D. McVoy, retiring president, had accepted the presidency of Mansfield Female College in Louisiana.

The recent Commencement of Vanderbilt University had as its preacher on Sunday morning William J. Young, of the Baltimore Conference, an alumnus of the Biblical Department. The annual address before the society of the Alumni was delivered by A. F. Watkins, of the Mississippi Conference, on the subject, "What Is Demanded of the Educated Young Men of the South?" Dr. James H. Carlisle, of South Carolina, delivered the annual address. The address to the graduating class was delivered by Robert L. Taylor, Governor of Tennessee, W. R. Sims, of the Mississippi Conference, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

The commencement sermon of Kavanaugh College at Holmesville was preached by Robert Cooper of New Albany. A. A. Lomax, of the Baptist Church, addressed the Christian Association Sunday night. The commencement address was delivered by I. W. Cooper of Edwards, on "Character," and the address before the alumni by J. T. Nicholson of Hazlehurst, on "Life's Work." The degree of A.M. was conferred on Miss E. Lott, who for four years had the department of mathematics; and the degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred on J. M. Weems.

Endowment for Centenary College

In an effort to raise an endowment for Centenary College, led by P. A. Johnston, Agent, presiding elder of the Brandon District, the proposal was to raise $100,000, and Bishop Keener headed the list of donors with $100, and Mrs. J. W. Taylor, $100. In July the Agent reported $1,400 raised for the purpose. The amount reported later on in the year was $10,750.

Bishop Galloway in the West

Bishop Galloway held the Montana Conference, beginning July 25. The Butte City *Miner* speaks thus of him:

> "Bishop Galloway is a typical Southerner. He is of uncommon physique—a model in physical conformation and expression. He possesses great dignity, without ostentation. He is humble, without affectation. He is a man of strong convictions and marked individuality, and would sooner surrender his life than his principle. He would have made a distinguished jurist, a grand political leader, or a military chieftain worthy of knightly spurs, had not God wanted him for the work of the ministry."

The Bishop wrote a series of very interesting letters to the *Advocate* on his visit to the West, descriptive of the country in Yellowstone National Park, and many other things.

Camp Meeting

The trustees of the Seashore Campground arranged for the camp meeting to begin the second Wednesday in July. In view of the fact that other large camp meetings in other states charged ministers half-price, and as many who attended requested it, the board resolved to charge ministers seventy-five cents a day at the restaurant, and lodge them without cost as heretofore. The names of J. H. Keller, J. G. Grant and W. B. Thompson were added to the Board of Trustees. W. J. Herring of Mobile was elected president, J. H. Keller, vice-president, E. O. Mackie, financial secretary, J. G. Grant, recording secretary, and Phillip Werlein, treasurer.

The Hennington camp meeting, Crystal Springs, was announced to begin August 16. Rev. J. W. McNeil was secretary.

The China Grove camp meeting was held August 24-29. Spiritual results were satisfactory with 47 uniting with the church. R. S. Gale was pastor. Mrs. J. M. Weems, soon to depart with her husband for work in Mexico, organized two missionary societies on the occasion—one for *Tylertown* church and one for *China Grove* church.

The Topisaw camp meeting closed August 16. There were 22 accessions and 50 conversions. J. G. Sibley, pastor, was assisted by J. M. Weems, B. F. Lewis, R. S. Gale, W. L. Linfield. J. M. Weems preached his farewell sermon before leaving with his wife for missionary service in Mexico.

The Palmer Creek camp meeting, beginning October 6, was an unusually good one, well attended. The opening sermon was preached by W. W. Hopper, of Texas. Among other ministers present were J. B. Walker, of New Orleans, T. S. West, P. E., and a number of local preachers, besides the pastor, R. A. Breland. There were 15 accessions.

The Providence camp meeting was a grand success; three itinerant preachers attended, and there were 25 accessions. W. L. Linfield was the preacher in charge.

James Ansell Newsom

James Ansell Newsom was born in St. Helena parish, Louisiana, on December 28, 1865. He was converted when 11, licensed to preach when 17, and admitted on trial into the Mississippi Conference at the age of 19. He served Benton circuit in 1884, the North Wilkinson circuit in 1885, the Silver Creek circuit in 1886 and 1887, and in 1888 was appointed to the Madison circuit, where he died July 29, 1888.

He was ordained a deacon by Bishop Keener in Jackson, December 1887. He left a wife and one daughter to mourn his going. Mrs. Newsom still lives at Amite, Louisiana.

Prohibition Movement

Governor Lowry was criticized by Dr. Hunnicutt for vetoing a bill passed by more than two-thirds majority, providing that instruction be given in the public schools as to the nature of alcoholic drinks and narcotics, especially as to their effects upon the human system, in connection with the several divisions of the subject of physiology and hygiene. The reason seems to have been largely that the teachers were incapable of giving such instruction.

In June Bishop Galloway, chairman of the State Prohibition Executive Committee, issued a call for a State Convention at Jackson to be held on July 18. The Bishop resigned as chairman of the Committee on account of his pressing duties in the church, and asked permission to work only in the ranks in the future.

A State Prohibition Bureau was organized with headquarters in Meridian with personnel as follows: Dr. A. E. Row, Wesson; W. H. Patton, Shubuta; John A. Lewis, W. C. Black, J. B. Gambrell, D. S. Harmon, Meridian; Mrs. M. M. Snell, Columbus, Mrs. W. T. Hulbut, and Mrs. H. B. Kells, Meridian. The officers were W. C. Black, president; John Lewis, secretary-treasurer; and J. H. Gambfell, corresponding secretary.

The Mississippi White Ribbon, a monthly paper, appeared in the latter part of the year, published in Meridian and edited by Mrs. H. B. Kells, with the temperance cause its specialty.

John Griffing Jones

On Monday night, October 1, 1888, at 11:19, this veteran of the church, a soldier of the cross, passed to his eternal reward, at the residence of his son-in-law, R. W. Millsaps, at Hazlehurst. His funeral services were held at Port Gibson on October 3, being in charge of E. H. Mounger. Addresses were made by J. T. Nicholson, R. J. Jones, C. K. Marshall, and W. L. C. Hunnicutt. He was in his 85th year, having devoted 64 years to the ministry. He was born in Jefferson county on August 23, 1804, and joined the church on October 19, 1821. He was licensed to preach on October 9, 1824, at Bethel campground in Wilkinson county by a District Conference of the old style, and he was employed at once by William Winans, presiding elder, to fill a vacancy on the Amite circuit. At the Conference following, held at Tuscaloosa, he was admitted on trial. He was ordained deacon in the same city on December 17, 1826, by Bishop Robert R. Roberts, and elder in the same place in December 1828, by Bishop Joshua Soule. He was a pastor 19 years, presiding elder 12 years, in charge of colored missions nine years, and superannuate for 24 years. He was the author of two volumes of Mississippi Conference history, and also a very significant volume, *History of Protestantism in the Southwest.* He was a member of the Convention which formed the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and a delegate to four General Conferences.

His last sermon was preached at the Sam Jones camp meeting on August 23, 1888, his 84th birthday, on "Blessed are they that do hunger and thirst after righteousness."

George F. Thompson

After 40 years of service as a faithful servant of the Lord and a leader among his brethren, George F. Thompson on October 27, 1888, suddenly passed away at Ocean Springs, where he had been pastor three years. He was born in Marion District, South Carolina, October 27, 1821, and died at the age of 67. Converted in Memphis in 1839, he was licensed to preach in May of the same year. His first charge was as supply in the Arkansas Conference in 1848; the next year he was admitted on trial into that Conference. In 1852 he was transferred to the Memphis Conference, and in 1856 to the Mississippi Conference, where he served till his death, on missions, circuits, stations, as presiding elder, and president of Whitworth College.

Week of Prayer and Self-denial

Bishop Galloway announced that the observance of the week of prayer and self-denial in 1887 yielded about $27,000. For 1888, the week was set for April 1-8.

Women's Department of Church Extension

Mrs. E. D. Jones of Carlisle, the secretary of the department of Church Extension of the Conference Woman's Missionary Society, was very much interested and was doing monumental work in the interest of building parsonages in the Mississippi Conference. There were at this time 23 life patrons of the Preachers Wives Loan Fund in the Conference. The payment of $20 constituted a life membership.

CHAPTER XX

1889

Conference at Vicksburg

Bishop Robert Kennon Hargrove presided over the session of the Mississippi Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which was held at Vicksburg, December 5-10, 1888. On call of the roll by the Secretary, 91 clerical and 18 lay members were found to be present during the session. The Secretaries remained the same as last year. Bishop Galloway was present for some days and assisted in presiding.

Admissions and Transfers

This year there came into the Conference *on trial* a class of young men, most of whom were to live long and to be valued members of the brotherhood: William Winans Drake of Jackson, La.; James G. Galloway, of Jackson, Miss., a brother of Bishop Galloway; Waldo Worley Moore, Binnsville; Thomas B. Reagan, Holmsville; William G. Forsyth, son of Rev. J. L. Forsyth; Hicks M. Ellis, Brookhaven, son of Rev. J. A. Ellis; Edward T. Denson, McComb; Lewis Wallace Wood, Wesley Chapel; and William Monroe Sullivan, Meadville.

Three were *received by transfer:* J. W. Tinnin from North Texas; R. M. Saunders from Virginia; and W. W. Hopper from North Texas.

Matthew J. Miller was *discontinued* at his own request.

Transferred out: J. M. Weems, to Central Mexican Mission; and A. D. McVoy, to Louisiana.

Ordinations

Traveling preachers *ordained deacons:* B. M. Drake, G. H. Galloway, W. L. Linfield, R. A. Breland, W. H. Huntley, G. D. Anders, and J. N. Ware.

Local preachers *ordained deacons:* Wiley Brown, J. G. Freeman, W. W. Moore, C. C. Gibson, J. E. Jagers, J. H. Freeman, and F. M. Keen.

Ordained local elder: Gabriel Richard Ellis.

Church Extension

It was reported that 20 churches of the Conference had societies officially connected with the Woman's Department of Church Extension. The Conference secretary of this department was Mrs. E. D. Jones, Carlisle, and the Conference treasurer was Mrs. O. S. Robbins, Vicksburg. District secretaries were as follows: Jackson, Mrs. R. W. Millsaps; Vicksburg, Miss Janie Paxton; Meridian, Miss Clara Harmon; Brookhaven, Miss A. C. Chrisman; Woodville, Mrs. J. A. Ellis; Seashore, Mrs. Benjamin Jones; and Brandon, Mrs. P. A. Johnston.

State of the Church

Some remarkable statements were incorporated into the report on the state of the church made to the Conference by Isaac L. Peebles, secretary of the committee:

> "Prayer meetings are more numerous and are well attended. There is an increase in family altars. In some communities all the young men who are members of the church pray in public. Our people are becoming more careful about contracting and paying debts. Economy and honesty are among the elements of their religion. Their relish for dancing and theatre-going is almost completely extinguished in some localities. . .
>
> "There is not only an increased effort for the erection of churches and parsonages, and to repair dilapidated ones, but also to make them comfortable and fully expressive of the financial ability of the community in which they are located. More attention is being paid to securing good titles to churches and church property generally than heretofore. The difficulties to

church collections are growing less annually. The love and zeal of our church for the missionary cause have by far exceeded our expectations."

Sabbath Observance

Keeping the Sabbath holy was a live issue in the days of our fathers. It would be well today if we heeded many of their admonitions concerning Sabbath observance. The committee on Sabbath observance at this 1888 Conference deplored the violation of the Sabbath by railroads and other corporations and requested that Methodists refrain from traveling on railroads on the Sabbath and also refrain from all secular business on that day. Of peculiar interest in the report of this committee, however, is the following:

> "We would especially warn the parents of our Church against the danger of allowing their children to violate the sanctity of the Sabbath by attending baseball plays, conversation parties, and other social gatherings of young people, not for religious purposes—or attending and engaging in any frivolous amusements on the Sabbath day, believing as we do, that the better way is train up a child (on this line) in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.
>
> "We furthermore deprecate the habit of some of the good women of our church of cooking unnecessarily on the Sabbath; would recommend that they perform this labor, as far as practicable, on Saturday, and would recommend to our ministry that they use their influence in this direction by eating such things as are set before them on Sunday, asking no questions. . . .
>
> "*Resolved,* That we hereby protest against the habit of some of our membership of local visiting on the Sabbath, because they thereby not only are kept from attending church themselves, but hinder others."

Educational Loan Fund

An educational loan fund was set up by the 1888 Annual Conference by the adoption of the following resolution which was presented by W. L. C. Hunnicutt, president of Centenary College, and J. W. Chambers:

> "*Resolved,* That a Board of Commissions, consisting of five laymen and five ministers, shall be appointed by this Conference for the purpose of

collecting and administering a Loan Fund for the benefit of young men seeking education in Centenary College.

"*Resolved,* That said Board shall consist at the outset of John A. Ellis, Geo. T. McGehee., C. McDonald, P. A. Richardson, W. E. Ballard, Geo. M. Brown, P. A. Johnston, N. J. Vick, John W. Chambers, and Peter James; and that this Conference shall fill vacancies in this Board annually.

"*Resolved,* That this Board is hereby authorized to collect, hold, lend, and manage whatever funds shall be placed in their hands for the above-named purpose, and to do all lawful acts necessary for the accomplishment of the ends herein contemplated."

Paine Institute

Paine Institute was represented at the Annual Conference by Rev. W. C. Dunlop, its commissioner. Following his address to the Conference for this institution for the education of colored ministers and teachers, $306 was raised in cash and subscriptions, and C. G. Andrews was appointed to receive and forward the subscriptions.

Looking Towards Millsaps College

After making reports to the Conference concerning Centenary College, Whitworth College, East Mississippi Female College, Port Gibson Female College, Woodville Female Seminary, and Kavanaugh College, the Board of Education offered the following resolutions which the Conference adopted:

"1. That we realize the rapid strides being made around us in progress and learning, and that we still endeavor, both by precept and example, to keep our people fully abreast of the age.

"2. That a College for Males under the auspices and control of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, ought to be established at some central and accessible point in the State of Mississippi.

"3. That a committee of three laymen and three preachers be appointed to confer with a like committee to be appointed by the North Mississippi Conference to formulate plans to receive offers of donations of lands, buildings or money for that purpose and to report to the next session of said Conference.

"This we do without any unfriendliness to Centenary College or desire to impair its influence or to interfere with the present endowment plan now being carried out by Dr. Hunnicutt, president of that honored institution."

C. G. Andrews, Chairman

The Conference named this committee as follows: T. L. Mellen, Chairman, A. F. Watkins, W. C. Black, R. W. Millsaps, W. L. Nugent, and Luther Sexton, M.D.

The North Mississippi Conference in its session later named its committee as follows: J. J. Wheat, chairman; S. M. Thames, T. J. Newell, Hon. G. D. Shands, J. B. Streater, and Major D. L. Sweatman.

Dr. Weems Departs

Dr. J. M. Weems, transferred to the Central Mexican Mission, left with his wife in early January for their new field of labor in Mexico. Mrs. Weems was Sophie Galloway, sister of the Bishop.

Major Millsaps Makes Proposal

The Joint Commission on the proposed college in Mississippi met in Jackson on February 14, 1889. The following were present: *Mississippi Conference;* T. L. Mellen, A. F. Watkins, W. C. Black, R. W. Millsaps, W. L. Nugent, and L. M. Sexton; *North Mississippi Conference*: J. J. Wheat, S. M. Thames, T. J. Newell, and D. L. Sweatman. R. W. Millsaps proposed to give $50,000 to the endowment, provided the Church raised a like amount.

W. C. Black, Chairman of the Executive Committee, made an appeal through the *Advocate* to the members of the two Conferences in Mississippi to respond to the call for $50,000 to match the offer of Major R. W. Millsaps. Two weeks later he reported $1,100 for the new college. Hazlehurst had given $810. Crystal Springs, Wesson, and Hazlehurst, all in Copiah county, had given $4,275.

Bishop Galloway and J. J. Wheat addressed the Grenada District Conference at Winona in the interest of the new college and secured $2,025 for the endowment. In September Bishop Galloway made an urgent appeal to the Methodists of Mississippi in behalf of the new college to be established in Mississippi, and stated that about $30,000 had been subscribed. In October he reported $37,000, and felt sure that the full amount would be raised by December 10.

Location of the College

All sections of the state were highly interested in securing the college and many offers and applications were made to secure it. Not all can be mentioned. In early March Brandon was suggested as the most suitable place; Winona was nominated also, and in the same month Dr. R. Abbey writing from Gulf View, says if geographical center is wanted, build the college at Kosciusko, but if health is considered the Coast is the place. Morton was also named as having all the advantages. H. W. Foote nominated Macon in June; in July W. E. Ballard named Natchez; and Peter James nominated Jackson, Louisiana—which was the seat of Centenary. In October Winona reported subscriptions of $20,000 as a bonus to secure it, and Grenada, Holly Springs, Kosciusko, Canton, and Jackson were organizing plans to secure it; and Jackson was emphasized in a well-written article by Rev. J. W. McNeil.

Expenses at Vanderbilt

George H. Thompson, when a student at Vanderbilt University, wrote December 24, 1888, correcting some impressions as to the cost of staying there, saying that about nine dollars a month would pay expenses. Bishop Galloway was announced to preach the sermon at Vanderbilt University, June 16.

Bishop H. N. McTyeire

In January hope was expressed that the health and strength of Bishop McTyeire would enable him to be brought to Ocean Springs for recuperation; he was very weak and no improvement was shown. The editorial page of the *Advocate* of February 21, 1889, was in mourning over the death of the Bishop who departed this life on Friday 15, at 9 o'clock, A.M.

Born in Barnwell county, South Carolina, July 28, 1824, he entered the ministry in the Virginia Conference in 1845. He married Miss Amelia Townsend, of Mobile, in 1847. He was elected Bishop in the New Orleans Conference in 1866. He died at his home in Nashville and was buried on the campus of Vanderbilt University, of whose Board of Trust he was president. He presided over the Mississippi Conference in 1869, 1877, and 1885.

On May 5, Bishop John C. Keener preached a great sermon in the chapel of Vanderbilt University in his memory, which sermon was published in full in the *Advocate* of May 23, along with an article, "In Memoriam," also by Bishop Keener.

Centenary College

A gracious revival was held early in 1889 among the students at Centenary College, led by Dr. Hunnicutt, the president, and reported by D. P. Bradford who had charge of the boarding department of the College. C. McDonald, presiding elder of the Woodville District, urged the endowment of the College, and had taken notes for $800.

Missionary

In early March it was announced by Miss Annie Linfield, secretary, that Miss Clara Chrisman, of Beauregard, had been accepted as a foreign missionary and assigned to assist Miss Watts in the college at Piricicaba, Brazil. She was expected to sail on June 5 to her field of labor. A farewell service was held for her at her home church, Beauregard, May 26, on the eve of her departure. She was on her way to her field of work when she was drowned in the great flood of Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

The report of the treasurer of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Mississippi Conference, Miss Annie DeMoss of Vicksburg, showed that the collections for the year March 1, 1888, to March 1, 1889, from the various auxiliaries amounted to $1,646.69.

A letter from J. W. Lambuth in Takushima, Japan, was reassuring as to the conversion of the people, and the great progress of the work in that land. Another letter from him from Kobe, Japan, written September 16, told of the progress made and urged that another missionary be sent to him at Himija, to which place he was to move for at least three months. The thousand dollars raised by popular subscription for this purpose was about complete.

Miss Bessie Fearn, recording secretary of the Mississippi Conference Missionary Society, died in Jackson on October 25, 1889.

Home of Bishop Galloway

The new home of Bishop Galloway was completed about the middle of March 1889, at a cost of $6,500. It belonged to the Bishop and still stands just across the street in front of Galloway Memorial Church.

Trustees Meeting at Seashore

The trustees of the Seashore Campground met on March 26, nearly all the members being present. The three presiding elders, Drs. A. J. Lamar, Charles F. Evans, and T. S. West were present to sit in council with the Board. The following officers were elected: W. J. Hearin, president; J. H. Keller, vice-president; J. G. Grant, recording secretary; P. Werlein, treasurer; and D. L. Mitchell, financial secretary. The Board was increased in membership to seventeen—eight from the New Orleans District; five from the Mobile District; and four from the Seashore District. The time of the camp meeting was set for July 5-15. The day set for the Woman's Christian Temperance Union was Tuesday, July 16.

Reports from the Field

J. P. Drake wrote that the people of *Clarke* county again had defeated the enemy at the polls, February 28, by a larger majority than before; thus prohibition again succeeded.

W. M. Sullivan, writing from *Gloster* during his first appointment, described his reception and the good dinner prepared for them. He had seven preaching places.

J. G. Sibley, who was appointed to *Providence*, Brookhaven District, had to give up his charge on account of ill health; afterward he made his home at Nicholson in Hancock county.

George H. Galloway, pastor, nominated *Columbia* as the place for the proposed college.

Mrs. E. D. Jones, Carlisle, secretary of the Church Extension Woman's Department, for this Conference, paid the following tribute to the memory of Mrs. T. J. Davis, of Enterprise, "A fragrant memory will linger lovingly in the hearts of those who knew her. Her crown is radiant with sparkling jewels."

Dr. W. C. Black, of Jackson, dedicated the church at *Gallman* on April 14. J. N. Tucker organized the church in 1885; a house of worship was built under the pastorate of George Bancroft, as well as a parsonage secured. M. L. Burton had the duty of finishing up the enterprise.

Bishop Galloway, after a powerful sermon on Sunday, May 19, at the church at West Jackson, now *Capitol Street* church, secured nearly $400.00 which paid the debt and left $106.00 toward payment for the pews; he dedicated the church, which was presented by Hon. W. L. Nugent. W. W. Hopper was pastor.

N. B. Harmon, pastor of *South Vicksburg circuit*, began the year with no members and five Sunday School scholars; in June he had a church membership of 69, more than 100 on the rolls of the Sunday School, and a neat little church.

Sam Jones held a great meeting in *Jackson* with overflowing crowds. There were at least 100 accessions to the two Methodist churches, and other churches had as many or more.

A. B. Stewart

Andrew Barton Stewart was born in Madison county on March 3, 1843, the son of Rev. George W. Stewart who for years was a useful local preacher, and also a practitioner in medicine. His mother was marked for her piety. He graduated at the University of Mississippi, and taught for a time. He joined the Mississippi Conference in 1866, and served various charges. He was injured by being thrown from his buggy; this and other reasons caused a complete breakdown, and he was given the superannuate relation. He died on June 17, 1889.

Some Departed Methodists

Rev. William Anderson Ray, born in Alabama, August 30, 1928, joined the church at the age of 12, and was converted at Bear Creek campground in Alabama. After some years as a class leader, he was licensed to exhort in 1857 and to preach in September, 1858. Ordained deacon by Bishop Pierce at Jackson, November 24, 1862, he was a local preacher of great usefulness. He married Miss Martha Glass in Noxubee county, August 29, 1850. The Ray family of Madison county are his descendants.

Dr. William Reber, born in Fairfield county, Ohio, May 29, 1809, united with the church in 1827, married Miss Susan Houston November 5, 1836, and moved to Rankin county immediately after marriage. In 1836 he and his wife began housekeeping on the site of Brandon, as its first settlers. He taught school and then took his medical training in Philadelphia, 1854-1855. He practiced medicine in Brandon until a few years before his death on January 1, 1889.

Rev. Charles Thompkins French was born in Laurenceburg, Indiana, on February 11, 1822, and died at his home in Claiborne county on January 10, 1889. He joined the Mississippi Conference in 1844 at Port Gibson and served for 26 years consecutively; at the close of 1870 he located, but continued to serve in useful work until the end.

Dr. James M. West, born in Florida on December 25, 1801, moved to Georgia when a boy, and lived there till 1828, and then moved to Lawrence county, Mississippi. In 1829 he moved to his late home and there spent the last 60 years of his life. He first married Miss Nancy Taylor; his second marriage was to Miss Mary A. Sims. He joined the church in 1819 and lived in her communion till his death on January 12, 1889.

Mrs. Mary Jane Thompson, formerly a Miss Malone, born in Caswell county, North Carolina, in 1825, died near New Hebron on February 5. She was married in Georgia on January 9, 1844, to Z. Tolliver Thompson, and moved to Mississippi in April 1846. She joined the church under the ministry of Andrew Day.

Mrs. Nancy Hails died on February 21, 1889. Born in the Darlington District, South Carolina, the daughter of Edmon and Elizabeth Moore, she came to Mississippi in childhood and settled in Rankin county. She married John E. Hails when 21 and was the mother of 10 children. A member of the church for 60 years, she died in peace.

Dr. James Hervie Galloway, who was born in Brunswick, North Carolina, on June 27, 1827, moved to Mississippi in 1840, and settled in Madisonville, died on March 21, 1889. He married Sarah J. Moore, October 26, 1854; there were seven children born to them. He was buried in Canton with funeral services conducted by C. A. Powell and T. B. Holloman.

Mrs. Eliza H. Haney, born in Vicksburg, 1827, married Dr. J. G. Parham. After his death she married Hon. Martin Haney.

Mrs. Mary H. Poitevent, wife of Capt. John Poitevent of Pearlington, died Saturday, April 13. Burial services were held at the residence.

Marion C. Alford Miller, son of Rev. A. D. Miller, died on May 31, 1889, aged about eight years. On June 11 a brother, *David Kavanaugh,* also died, in the sixteenth year of his age. The latter had joined the church at Trenton, August 2, 1884, and on September 9 was happily converted at the Trenton camp meeting.

Professor W. B. Massey died at Montrose on August 2, 1889, aged 36. Born in Leake county, February 25, 1852, he professed religion when 14 in Panola county, and led the life of a consistent and earnest Christian. He established the Montrose High School in 1884, and was principal at the time of his death.

Henry James Hennington, born November 5, 1828, died near Crystal Springs on September 23, 1889. He married Miss Ann Siebe on January 2, 1866.

John R. Tally, Sr., died at his home in Hattiesburg on October 24, 1889, aged 55 years.

Commencements

The Commencement at Whitworth College was preceded on Saturday night with a lecture by Sam P. Jones for the benefit of the college library. Dr. O. P. Fitzgerald preached the sermon on June 9. Dr. C. W. Carter was announced to address the Young Ladies Christian Association; the address before the Alumnae was delivered by Charles E. Hooker, Jr., of Jackson; and the annual address was delivered by T. Marshall Miller, Attorney General.

Announcement was made that the sermon at Centenary would be preached by Dr. C. G. Andrews on June 2, and that the address before the Alumni Association would be delivered on June 4 by Dr. C. K. Marshall.

The program for Kavanaugh College included a sermon by R. W. Merrell, of the Baptist Church, New Orleans, June 9; an address before the Christian Association, at night, by H. R. Singleton; an address before the Alumni Association by Hon. D. M. Watkins, of Columbia; and an address before the graduating class by Dr. W. C. Black. The College had two graduates at the present session, Rev. James Atkins Lewis and Annie Olive Stevens, each receiving the degree of B.A.; Miss Flora C. Colquohoun was ready to graduate, but died two weeks before commencement.

C. G. Andrews, a member of the visiting committee, made a most favorable report on East Mississippi Female College which was full to capacity. The new president, R. M. Saunders, and his wife had made a great impression on the administrators of this school for young ladies.

I. W. Cooper, of the visiting committee for Port Gibson College, wrote a very approving report of the committee: the president, principal and teachers were of the best class; the construction of the building, the delightful campus, and the homelike appearances of everything made the college a desirable place for young ladies.

District Conferences

The Woodville District Conference met at Amite City, La., on May 18, with C. McDonald, P.E., in the chair. There was preaching morning and night by B. F. Jones, C. D. Cecil, H. W. Featherstun, and others. W. L. C. Hunnicutt represented Centenary College and W. B. Murrah, Whitworth College. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were E. F. Tucker, H. C. Newsom, Dr. C. S. Stewart, and R. S. Austin.

The Jackson District Conference was held at Canton on July 21-23 with Bishop Galloway presiding. W. C. Black and Bishop Galloway delivered addresses on the college movement, and nearly $1,500 was secured. The Bishop, who was reared in Canton, preached to a packed house on Sunday morning.

The Brookhaven District Conference met at McComb on June 27 with W. B. Lewis, P.E., in the chair. H. M. Ellis was secretary. The Conference heartily endorsed Whitworth and Kavanaugh Colleges. Mrs. E. D. Jones presented the claims of the Woman's Department of the Board of Church Extension. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were J. H. Thompson, C. E. Hudson, L. T. Fitzhugh, and H. M. Quin.

The Seashore District Conference met at Ocean Springs on July 3, being presided over by T. S. West, P. E. Excellent sermons were preached by Gabriel R. Ellis, B. Jones, R. Abbey, and L. W. Wood.

The Vicksburg District Conference met at Vicksburg on July 4 with Bishop Galloway presiding. A mass meeting on educational work was held on Friday evening in the Methodist church. E. H. Mounger, president of Port Gibson Female College, read a carefully-prepared paper on the subject. W. L. C. Hunnicutt followed with an address on Christian Education. Bishop Galloway also made a forceful address and secured subscriptions to the new college to be established. Delegates to the Annual Conference were elected as follows: T. A. Holloman, W. D. Brown, W. G. Paxton, and W. A. Gunning.

The Meridian District Conference convened in Vossburg on July 25 with R. D. Norsworthy, P. E., in the chair. L. P. Brown was elected secretary. Bishop Galloway arrived in time to hold the session on Friday, July 26. C. W. Carter, C. G. Andrews, R. M. Saunders, and W. B. Murrah were present representing various interests. Delegates to Annual Conference were elected: S. S. Cope, L. P. Brown, J. S. Turner, and W. S. Davis; alternates, Dr. T. J. Krouse and D. W. Heidelberg.

Campground and Camp Meetings

The *Seashore* camp meeting, as reported by the editor of the *Advocate,* seemed to be not quite as well attended as usual, but the preaching was excellent. The results seemed meager, only a few uniting with the church. The new hymn book proved to be eminently fit for a camp meeting. Improvements had been made on the grounds.

The *Hennington* camp meeting, at Crystal Springs, said the secretary, J. W. McNeil, was one of the best ever had. George Stuart preached twice a day most of the time. There were more than 50 conversions, 48 accessions, with more to follow; and two young men's prayer meetings were organized.

The *Sam Jones* camp meeting, near Gloster, where the preaching was done, for the most part, by Joe Jones, who preached three times a day, resulted in 15 accessions to the church. The meeting was largely attended, estimated from 4,000 to 5,000, and there were 30 preachers present.

The *Lake* camp meeting was well attended. H. R. Caldwell was pastor and P. A. Johnston presiding elder. W. W. Simmons and W. W. Cammack did the preaching mainly; R. G. Porter ("Gilderoy"), of the North Mississippi Conference, also preached, and J. S. Parker, of Newton, also assisted.

Announcement was made by J. M. Cowan that the *Topisaw* camp meeting would begin on Saturday before the second Sunday in August.

Andrew Chapel camp meeting was held for four days with 50 conversions and 12 accessions. The pastor was assisted by D. F. Guice of Lauderdale and H. C. Brown of Meridian.

A camp meeting was held at *Frost Bridge* by H. C. Brown, with seven additions.

The *Shiloh* camp meeting was very good, the pastor being assisted by P. A. Johnston, P. E., W. C. Black, W. W. Morse, J. S. Parker, J. N. Tucker, and I. L. Peebles; 14 members were received.

The *New Prospect* camp meeting on Vancleave circuit was a success, the pastor being assisted by Messrs. Anders, Whittington, B. Jones, Walker, and Miles, the last two being local preachers.

The *St. Tamany* camp meeting was held September 27-October 2. G. R. Ellis, pastor, was assisted by T. S. West, P. E., Seashore District, T. W. Adams of Pearlington, S. J. Davies of New Orleans and G. T. Vickers and L. W. Wood of Covington circuit; this was a great revival resulting in 45 professed conversions and 18 accessions.

Additional Items

The Methodist parsonage at Brookhaven was destroyed by fire; its value was $2,000, and it was insured for $1,200.

A. D. Miller, pastor of Shiloh circuit, was interested in giving the gospel to the Choctaw Indians in Mississippi. There were about two thousand of them at the time. He called for aid to support a missionary to preach to them, saying that they were truthful, honest, and virtuous.

Dr. W. C. Black visited the Texas Chautauqua at San Marcos, under the leadership of H. M. DuBose, formerly of the Mississippi Conference, and delivered two lectures.

The prize fight between John L. Sullivan and Jake Kilrain at Richburg near Hattiesburg, illegal in this state, was prosecuted by James H. Neville, District Attorney, with the cooperation of Governor Lowry, who stood for law and order, and Judge Sam H. Terral of Quitman, a staunch Methodist.

In the absence of the pastor, the week of prayer and self-denial was observed by the laymen of the Hattiesburg church, and an offering of $25.00 was received for missions.

Major R. W. Millsaps was elected president of Monteagle Assembly.

H. M. DuBose, formerly of the Mississippi Conference was editor of the *Los Angeles Christian Advocate.*

Miss Willie Galloway, eldest daughter of Bishop C. B. Galloway, had a position as teacher of vocal and instrumental music at Galloway College, Searcy, Arkansas.

Sam Jones was announced to begin a meeting at Greenville on November 1, another at Meridian on November 10, and a third at Vicksburg on November 20.

V. V. Boone, pastor at Bay St. Louis, married Miss Lillian May Hall, of Bay St. Louis on October 30, 1889, the ceremony being performed by Dr. T. S. West, presiding elder.

Bishop John C. Keener preached a sermon in memory of Jefferson Davis in Felicity Street church, New Orleans.

I. W. Cooper, pastor at Edwards, was the orator for the Alumni Association at Hiwassee College, Tennessee, at commencement.

Dr. W. C. Black, chairman, called a State Convention for July 2, at Jackson, by instruction of the State Prohibition Executive Committee.

Every charge in the Brookhaven District, except New Hope and Topisaw, had a parsonage, and the prospect for one at Topisaw was immediate, wrote the presiding elder, W. B. Lewis. There was great need for a district parsonage.

C. G. Andrews lost his son, Oscar, by death in Meridian.

Reports from the Field

W. W. Simmons held a meeting in *Hattiesburg* in March, assisted by G. D. Anders and N. J. Roberts, with 49 accessions.

Yazoo City, R. S. Woodward, pastor, witnessed a great revival held by Joe Jones, brother of Sam Jones, and J. A. Bowen, with large attendance.

At *South Side, Vicksburg*, the pastor, N. B. Harmon, was assisted by W. W. Hopper, in a revival that resulted in 22 conversions and 19 accessions.

At *West Jackson*, W. W. Hopper, pastor, was assisted by N. B. Harmon, Bishop Galloway, W. C. Black, D. A. Little, P.E., and L. S. Jones.

At *Vancleave*, M. L. White, pastor, was assisted by James G. Galloway, L. R. Roberts and other local preachers. The meeting at Mt. Pleasant was a grand success, with great crowds, seven accessions, and eight children baptized.

Jas. G. Cammack on the *Neshoba circuit* organized one new church, received 24 members and raised money enough in cash and subscriptions to build a church at *Union*.

On the *China Grove circuit*, with H. M. Ellis, pastor, the number of Sunday Schools increased from one to seven.

At *Shubuta*, J. P. Drake, pastor, was assisted by J. W. Chambers and D. C. Langford, in a revival which resulted in 20 accessions.

At *Raymond*, the meeting resulted in six accessions, and at Bolton in 60 conversions and 26 accessions. I. W. Cooper did the preaching at Bolton.

On the *Talisheek circuit*, G. R. Ellis, pastor, a new church was completed, and the parsonage was repaired and furnished.

On the *Newton circuit*, J. S. Parker, pastor, 50 members were received. A good meeting was held at Newton where he was assisted by Robert Selby and I. L. Peebles. There were six prayer meetings. The meeting at *Decatur* resulted in 18 accessions, J. N. Tucker preaching.

At *Benton,* H. P. Lewis, pastor, a great meeting was held by Joe J. Jones. Preaching was held three times a day, with great crowds attending; more than 100 applied for membership, more than 60 being received at Benton on the last Sunday in July. The *Midway* meeting resulted in 14 additions, totaling 39 to date for Midway, and 120 for the charge.

At *Flora,* W. H. Huntley, pastor, a great meeting was held by C. A. Powell, with 10 or 12 members received.

At *Wesson and Beauregard,* T. L. Mellen, pastor, received 70 new members between the second and third quarterly conferences. Prayer meeting attendance was reported to range between 150 and 200; and four young men were preparing for the ministry.

At *Centerville,* G. D. Anders, the pastor, was assisted by J. A. B. Jones and W. W. Simmons, with 18 accessions. At Macedonia there were bright conversions.

At *Union* James G. Cammack reported phenomenal success: 40 accessions, with more to follow, and 125 conversions.

At *Crystal Springs,* H. R. Singleton, the pastor, received 75 members during the year, including the camp meeting.

On *Martin circuit,* the pastor, J. Wilson Brown, was assisted in a meeting at *Cane Ridge* by N. B. Young, and by E. H. Mounger who preached two good sermons during the last days.

At *Franklinton,* the pastor, J. H. Evans, was assisted by W. B. Lewis, P.E., with 17 accessions.

At *Amite City,* F. M. Keen, pastor, received 25 new members before the third quarterly conference, with 11 children baptized. A meeting by Joe Jones at Amite City resulted in 70 accessions.

On the *Satartia circuit,* J. J. Lovett, pastor, was assisted in four meetings by H. P. Lewis and W. W. Hopper, with total of 133 accessions.

At *Madison station,* D. G. W. Ellis, pastor, 40 accessions were received by September.

On *Meridian circuit,* L. J. Jones, pastor, had good meetings at Chunky, Suqualena, and Concord, with 10 accessions.

On the *Hattiesburg circuit,* W. W. Simmons, pastor, four meetings were held with 76 accessions, for a total of 102 by October. A new church was erected at *Eastabuchie,* and also the parsonage at Ellisville was completed, being well furnished, and the Ellisville church also.

At *Waynesboro* the pastor, E. F. Edgar, was assisted in a meeting by J. P. Drake of Shubuta.

At *Scotland,* the pastor, H. D. Howell, was assisted by J. A. Bowen, William Hoover, and G. W. Randolph of Crystal Springs who did most of the preaching.

On the *Utica circuit,* F. M. Williams, pastor, in the meeting at *Reeves Chapel,* was assisted by W. P. Jones, which resulted in 17 accessions; a few days' meeting at *Cayuga,* held by the pastor, resulted in 19 accessions.

At *Manassas,* N. M. Clarke, pastor, there were 18 accessions and 20 conversions in a meeting held by H. C. Brown.

On the *Fannin circuit,* J. N. Tucker was assisted by D. G. W. Ellis for five days with 18 accessions.

B. S. Rayner, pastor of *McComb circuit,* reported a great meeting at *Magnolia,* assisted by A. F. Watkins, with 20 accessions, totaling 91 for the year at Magnolia and McComb.

On the *Carthage circuit,* J. M. Morse reported all meetings held, assisted by A. D. Miller, C. A. Powell, W. W. Morse, V. D. Skipper, and T. W. Adams; 29 accessions, totaling 66 to date. A new church, costing $1,500, was being completed.

On the *Lake circuit,* H. R. Caldwell was assisted by P. A. Johnston, P.E., and R. A. Sibley for five days, resulting in 40 conversions and 13 accessions.

On the *Adams circuit,* R. S. Gale, pastor, had great meetings. At Adams he was assisted by B. S. Rayner and J. W. Sandell, with 12 accessions and six infants baptized; at Muddy Springs, assisted by H. M. Ellis, with 17 accessions; at Ebenezer, nearly all were already in the church, one infant baptized; at Beulah by Milton Ferrell, local preacher, with 33 accessions and eight infants baptized. The total for the year was 83 new members, 45 adults baptized and 25 infants.

At *Edwards,* I. W. Cooper, pastor, reported 50 accessions to the church this year, with the parsonage in good repair. C. W. Crisler was recommended by Edwards quarterly conference for admission on trial.

On the *Shiloh circuit* 77 new members to date. A. D. Miller was pastor. Three of his children died this year, and he was sick for three months.

Lauderdale, D. F. Guice, pastor, reported all meetings held with 35 accessions, and from 75 to 100 conversions; assisted by W. W. Simmons, N. M. Clarke, J. D. Crymes, and H. C. Brown; with property improved.

Yazoo City, R. S. Woodward, pastor, reported 90 added to the church this year, but heavy losses were sustained by removals.

W. M. Sullivan, *North Wilkinson circuit,* writing from Mt. Carmel, reported the loss of his wife. Meetings resulted in 42 accessions, and as many conversions, assisted by Bros. Flowers, Moore, Petty, Jones, and Strand.

Oak Ridge, R. Bradley, pastor, reported a general revival throughout the circuit. Preaching in the meetings was done by R. J. Jones, E. H. Mounger, I. W. Cooper, W. P. Jones, and C. W. Crisler, with 48 additions, 41 adults baptized and 22 infants.

The *Paulding circuit,* R. F. Witt, pastor, reported 40 accessions to the church during the year. Good revivals were held, with preaching by J. T. Nicholson, J. W. Chambers, J. N. Ware, and D. C. Langford. $1,500 was raised for church repairs.

New Churches, Parsonages

A new church was built at Beech Springs on the Walnut Grove circuit and it was dedicated by Irvin Miller.

A parsonage was built at Hazlehurst.

A parsonage was erected at McComb this year.

A new church was built at Yazoo City, at a cost of $10,000.

CHAPTER XXI

1890

Conference at Crystal Springs

The Mississippi Annual Conference met in session at Crystal Springs, December 18-23, 1889, Bishop Charles Betts Galloway, D.D., presiding.

The roll was called by the Secretary of the last Conference, C. G. Andrews, and 103 clerical and 22 lay members were present during the Conference. C. G. Andrews was again elected Secretary; J. A. B. Jones, Assistant Secretary; J. W. Chambers, Statistical Secretary; and T. W. Adams, Recording Secretary. The Conference met at 9:00 A.M., and adjourned at 1:30.

Visitors

David Morton, Secretary of Church Extension; J. D. Barbee, Book Agent; C. W. Carter, Editor, and D. L. Mitchell of the *New Orleans Christian Advocate;* Thos. J. Newell, president, Grenada Female College; W. T. J. Sullivan, T. W. Lewis, J. W. Honnell, G. W. Bachman, of the North Mississippi Conference; Mrs. Bishop W. M. Wightman; and the Rev. Mr. Patterson, pastor local Presbyterian church, were visitors to the Conference.

Admissions—Demissions

Sixteen were *admitted on trial,* a class of much promise, and one that included some of the leading men of the Conference through a long period of our history: Jerome R. Whittington, James T. Leggett, Martin Luther White, Charles W. Crisler, John Calvin Ellis, Robert H. Barr, Matthew J. Miller, Patrick H. Howse, Henry C. Brown, Henry L. Norton, James J. Smylie, Hervie Mellard, William M. Stevens, William H. Lewis, George H. Thompson, and Barney W. Lewis.

The following were *discontinued* at their own request: Paul M. Jones, Martin J. Marble, C. C. Campbell, and J. W. Tinnin.

Transferred to other Conferences were H. R. Singleton to the Pacific Conference, and stationed at San Jose; James Healey to Los Angeles Conference, and stationed at San Diego. H. L. Scarborough was *located* at his own request. J. V. Penn was suspended from the ministry for one year. Only one preacher had died during the year, A. B. Stewart.

D. W. Dillehay

David Washington Dillehay was born near Reynoldsburg, Humphrey county, Tennessee, September 28, 1813. His father was a local Methodist preacher and a zealous member. At the age of 19, David studied artistic painting in Louisville, and while there he was converted under the preaching of John Newland Maffit in the fall of 1832, and soon joined the church. On January 14, 1836, he married Miss Rebecca Cox, of Philadelphia, who was a devoted and faithful wife for over 50 years. In 1841 he was received into full connection into the church under Preston Cooper; he was licensed to preach about 1849 by the Quarterly Conference of Vicksburg Station. In 1853 he was admitted on trial into the Mississippi Conference, and assigned to Pinkneyville. He served various charges till the close of 1876, with the exception of one year, 1865, but his health failed, and he superannuated and was never able to resume his work. He was ordained deacon by Bishop Early, November 12, 1854, at Jackson, Louisiana, and elder by Bishop Paine, at Woodville, December 12, 1858. He was successful as a pastor in winning souls, and he was modest, amiable, consecrated. He passed away December 29, 1889.

Board of Trustees Millsaps College

A. F. Watkins, who was appointed Agent of Mississippi Methodist Male College by Bishop Galloway, made an encouraging report in early January on the effort to raise $50,000 and to convert the subscriptions and notes into cash.

The Joint Committee of the new college of Mississippi met January 10, 1890, and in keeping with the Conference action appointed the following to constitute the first Board of Trustees: North Mississippi Conference—J. J. Wheat, D.D., T. J. Newell, S. M. Thames, and R. M. Standifer, ministers; and G. D. Shands, D. L. Sweatman, J. B. Streater, and John Trice, laymen; Mississippi Conference—T. L. Mellen, W. C. Black, D.D., C. G. Andrews, D.D., and A. F. Watkins, ministers; and W. L. Nugent, R. W. Millsaps, L. S. Sexton, and M. M. Evans, laymen. Bishop Galloway was president of the board, and the college was later named Millsaps College, in honor of Major R. W. Millsaps, who made the offer of a donation of $50,000 for endowment, provided the churches in Mississippi would raise $50,000.

Some Early Events

H. J. Harris, of Hattiesburg, after 50 years of experience and observation as a preacher, wrote a suggestive letter to the *Advocate* on the work of the Annual Conference; and he also wrote of the cordial reception of G. D. Anders as pastor and I. W. Cooper as presiding elder.

Wm. B. Hines, a leader in the church for years, wrote of his delight at being on the Vossburg circuit, of his reception, and of the new presiding elder, T. L. Mellen, whom he welcomed.

J. W. Tinnin was appointed by the presiding elder, T. L. Mellen, to supply *Union circuit* for 1890.

There were several articles in the *Advocate* and much discussion as to the location of Millsaps College, the choice being left to the Board of Trustees.

W. B. Lewis, P. E., called a meeting of the committee on *district* *parsonage* to meet in Brookhaven, April 1, 1890, and invited the pastors to discuss the question and to decide where it would be.

T. L. Mellen had been appointed financial agent of the East Mississippi Female College, Dr. Saunders having resigned because of ill health.

I. W. Cooper, presiding elder, reported for the *Seashore District* that the 19 faithful preachers were at their posts of duty, nearly all salaries increased, some as much at $300 to $550; six new parsonages were on the way; and the presiding elder's salary had been fixed at $1,150.

J. W. Harmon, pastor, made an appeal for aid to build a new church in *Biloxi*, much needed. This church has developed into one of the strong churches along the coast, and at the time of this writing has a commodious new building, one of the finest church plants in the Conference.

M. L. White, pastor, was rejoicing over the pastorate of the *Vancleave circuit,* and reported that all the work was on the upgrade. W. J. Ramsay, a strong supporter of the church, had died. The Ramsays meant much to that circuit.

George H. Thompson, pastor, reported a good meeting at *Scranton,* closing April 6, in which he was assisted by J. W. Harmon of Ocean Springs, H. C. Brown of Bay St. Louis, and Brother Chappelle of Mobile.

M. L. Burton, pastor of Wesley Chapel, Natchez, reported that 20 or 25 members had been received in June; the Sunday School and prayer meeting were good.

A New Missionary

A letter from J. W. Lambuth, our missionary in China and Japan, was grateful in its expressions for the new missionary sent to Japan by the completion of the campaign to raise a thousand dollars for that purpose; it was the second thousand dollars raised for this work, and a devoted missionary and his wife were sent from the Pacific Conference.

The Conference Endowment Fund

At the 1889 session of the Annual Conference Bishop Galloway had appointed W. W. Hopper as Agent for the Mississippi Conference Endowment Fund to help support the superannuated preachers and their widows and orphans. The movement was legally organized, having a charter and board of trustees, as follows: T. L. Mellen, president; B. F. Jones, vice-president; R. J. Jones, treasurer; F. M. Featherstun, B. S. Rayner, J. P. Drake, C. G. Andrews. This organization still is active.

At the close of the year W. W. Hopper, agent, reported $2,884.30 raised.

District Conferences

The *Woodville* District Conference convened at Gloster, March 27, 1890, with C. McDonald, P.E., in the chair. Only three preachers were absent. Bishop Galloway arrived on Friday and conducted the business of the Conference. D. L. Mitchell of the *New Orleans Christian Advocate;* A. F. Watkins, agent of Millsaps College; the colporteur, W. B. Van Valkenburgh; and J. W. McLaurin, agent of the American Bible Society, were present and represented their various interests. Sermons were delivered by G. A. Guice, F. M. Featherstun, R. S. Woodward, C. D. Cecil, W. L. C. Hunnicutt, A. F. Watkins, and J. W. McLaurin; Bishop Galloway preached on Sunday morning. Lay delegates elected to the Annual Conference were George T. McGehee, J. F. Cassels, H. C. Newsom, and T. D. Lipscomb.

The *Vicksburg* District Conference was held at Utica, April 3-4, with John A. Ellis, P.E., in the chair and W. A. Gunning as secretary. Robert Selby, of the Washington circuit, led the district in collections, having all the Conference assessments paid in full. Lay delegates elected to the Annual Conference were T. A. Holloman, D. F. Ashford, Dr. C. K. Marshall, and W. A. Gunning.

The *Jackson* District Conference met at Jackson on April 4, Bishop Galloway presiding. Only one pastor was absent and 27 lay delegates were present. B. F. Lewis was elected secretary. Finances were well paid up to date. Church buildings and parsonages generally were in good condition. Lay delegates elected to the Annual Conference were R. W. Millsaps, D. Bunch, R. G. Hudson, and R. H. Noblin.

The *Brandon* District Conference was held at Brandon, April 17-20, with P.A. Johnston, P.E., in the chair and W. M. Williams as secretary. There were 16 preachers and 24 laymen present, with four charges not represented. Finances were well up. Millsaps College Day was observed with addresses by D. P. Bradford, J. S. Parker, Hon. A. J. McLaurin, and L. T. Fitzhugh. An offering was taken by the presiding elder for the college amounting to $525. Lay delegates elected to the Annual Conference were W. M. Thornton, Rev. Irvin Miller, G. S. Harper, and Hon. J. R. Enochs; alternates, Hon. A. G. Mayers, and Hon. A. J. McLaurin.

The *Meridian* District Conference met at Enterprise on July 10. T. L. Mellen presided. It was announced that Bishop Haygood would be present during consideration of the educational interests on Friday and preach at 11 o'clock, but he failed to come, and Bishop Galloway arrived the second day and presided during the remainder of the session. Steps were taken for the early erection of a district parsonage at Meridian. Lay delegates elected to the Annual Conference were L. P. Brown, D. W. Heidelberg, Dr. C. R. Rencher, and W. F. Hyer. J. W. Chambers was host pastor, and L. P. Brown the secretary.

The *Seashore* District Conference at Hattiesburg was reported as one of the best, and G. D. Anders, pastor of the Hattiesburg circuit, reported that a parsonage worth $800 had been built. The revival spirit of the district conference was continued in a revival conducted by T. W. Adams for several days. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were T. S. Ford, J. S. Otis, T. C. Simmons, and R. J. Collins. The following were elected trustees of the Seashore Campground: T. S. Ford, J. P. Carter, E. J. Bowers, and E. F. Griffin.

The District Conferences generally were passing strong resolutions on the Louisiana Lottery, condemning it in the most vigorous terms.

The 1890 General Conference

The General Conference convened in Centenary Church, St. Louis, on Wednesday, May 7. Bishop John C. Keener, senior Bishop, presided at the opening session, with all the Bishops, including our own Bishop Galloway, on the platform. Bishops Granbery, Hargrove, and Duncan participated in the devotional service. The Episcopal Address was read by Bishop Wilson, and was published in full in the *Advocate* of May 22, 1890. The clerical delegates from the Mississippi Conference were W. C. Black, C. G. Andrews, W. B. Lewis, and W. L. C. Hunnicutt; the lay delegates were W. M. Thornton, R. W. Millsaps, M. M. Evans, and T. A. Holloman.

James A. Godfrey

James A. Godfrey was born in South Carolina, July 20, 1819. He was received into the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, by H. H. Montgomery; was licensed to preach by Rev. M. Yell of the Memphis Conference; was admitted on trial into the Mississippi Conference in 1845; and was appointed to Starkville circuit, which he served two years. He was ordained deacon in 1846 by Bishop Soule, and was ordained elder in 1848 by Bishop Andrew. He married Ann Maria Holmes, October 12, 1843, and she proved to be a devoted wife and companion. He passed through a great scourge of yellow fever while pastor in Jackson, in 1855, and came down near to death's door with it, but he never abandoned his post of duty, but was spared for 35 years longer. He was, indeed, a useful, faithful, efficient servant, and a great revivalist. He died peacefully at the residence of his son in Waynesboro on Wednesday, June 11, 1890.

Other Deaths During the Year

Dr. W. A. Galloway, a prominent citizen of Jackson, and a brother of Bishop Galloway, died in Jackson on March 1, 1890.

Mrs. Malinda Jane Jones, widow of R. J. Jones, Sr., who was one of the founders of the Mississippi Conference, and the father of R. J. Jones, Jr., and K. A. Jones, fell on sleep January 23, 1890. She was born in Alabama, January 14, 1834; was married August 30, 1865.

> "She was the child of pious parents, and her own life was marked by deep devotion to God. During her last illness she seemed to lose sight of all earthly things. Her mouth was filled with the songs of Zion and her last articulate words were, 'Glory to God.' She left two sons and one daughter—all grown. May God's providence, as manifested in this taking away of their beloved mother, be blest to their growth in grace."

The above memoir was written by John W. Chambers, pastor of Enterprise and Heidelberg. Mrs. Jones lived and died at the latter place, the town having been established on her property. Funeral services, in the absence of her pastor, were conducted by W. B. Hines, pastor at Vossburg. After these years the memory of the dear mother of the writer is still fresh, and the void has not been filled; she was faithful and good. The oldest child, the daughter referred to, Mrs. M. C. Thornton of Heidelberg, lived to the ripe age of 81, departing this life in 1947. The writer of these lines was the youngest. The other son, Edwin Barkley Jones, who died at the age of 29, was said to be the best justice of the peace in Jasper county, an office of much importance in that day.

Mrs. Eliza M. Morse, born in North Carolina, the daughter of Rev. Newitt Vick, died in New Oreans, March 31, 1890.

Valentine Havens, son of Rev. J. H. Havens and wife, Mary Jane, born February 14, 1876, died at the home of his parents, near Vancleave, April 4, 1890. He was the son of an influential local preacher and excellent man, and he himself joined the church at Red Hill, Jackson county, August 1, 1889.

Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis, wife of Thomas Ellis, died at the residence of her son-in-law, Mayor W. J. Deles, Yazoo City, April 20, 1890, aged 76. She was born in England (Yorkshire), April 6, 1814. She was a member of the Methodist Church for 45 years, and was a very consecrated and useful Christian.

Laughlin Bethea McLaurin died at his home in Jefferson county on July 11, 1890. Born in Marleboro District, South Carolina, November 10, 1828, he came to Mississippi in early manhood and married Miss Catherine Gilchrist, of Jefferson county, in 1875. The son of John and Elizabeth McLaurin, he joined the church in 1870 under the ministry of Harvey F. Johnson, and proved to be a very useful churchman and noble Christian.

Mrs. Lizzie A. Hoskins, the oldest daughter of Milton J. Whitworth, the founder of Whitworth College, died at Brookhaven on November 30, 1890, aged 50. The wife of Capt. James A. Hoskins, she was the mother of 13 children.

Elizabeth Female Academy

Bishop Galloway, in an article in the *New Orleans Advocate,* quoted from original sources showing that Mississippi ranked first in providing an institution of higher education of young women. The mother of female colleges was located at Washington, a few miles from Natchez; it was called Elizabeth Female Academy. The grounds and buildings had been donated to the Mississippi Conference in 1818 by Mrs. Elizabeth Greenfield, and the school was granted a charter by the Legislature in 1819. For 25 years, says Chancellor Edward Mayes, it did a noble work. Mrs. John Lane, Mrs. C. K. Marshall, Mrs. Bishop Kavanaugh, Mrs. B. M. Drake, and many others of the prominent women of the Southwest were educated there.

Commencements

W. C. Black was announced to deliver the commencement address for Lexington Normal College on June 15. This splendid school was one of the alma maters of the writer, in 1891 and 1892; in 1897 Millsaps College granted him the Bachelor of Arts degree also.

The sermon at Port Gibson Female College was preached by C. K. Marshall. E. H. Mounger, the president, delivered the diplomas to the ten graduates. Dr. Mounger resigned as president and Miss M. E. Compton was elected to that responsibility.

The sermon at Whitworth Female College was preached by Alonzo Monk of Memphis; the sermon before the Christian Association was preached by Bishop Galloway on June 8; the annual address was delivered by Rev. W. R. Sims of the University of Mississippi.

East Mississippi Female College at Meridian closed the 19th session on June 19. The sermon was preached by R. S. Woodward of Yazoo City; Dr. J. W. Bozeman delivered the address on Monday, the Art Day; the annual address was delivered by A. F. Watkins. The graduates were Ada Black, Blanche Buntyn, Alma Ellis, Mary Hawkins, Jennie Moore, Rosa Moore, Ellie Ormond, Lou Smith, Mary Terral, Zella Watts, Frances White, Mary Hawkins became the wife of Rev. J. J. Golden and Mary Terral the first wife of Rev. Henry G. Hawkins.

Millsaps College

The first gift to the bookshelves of the college was a 24-volume set of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* by Rev. D. L. Mitchell, business manager of the *New Orleans Christian Advocate*. W. C. Black reported in June that A. F. Watkins, agent, had raised more than $4,000, Vicksburg giving more than $1,500. A member of the Protestant Episcopal Church had made a subscription of $1,000, and that made the second $1,000 from a non-Methodist source.

Bishop Galloway reported in July that the endowment fund for the college was growing daily and was making a steady and gratifying progress. At a meeting of the Joint Committee in Jackson on June 25, the charter passed by the last Legislature was adopted, and the Board of Trustees was organized with the following officers: Bishop C. B. Galloway, president; Dr. C. G. Andrews, vice-president; Rev. T. J. Newell, secretary; Major R. W. Millsaps, treasurer.

The Bishop reported a visit to Mount Pleasant church, five miles east of Crystal Springs, on a quarterly conference occasion, where he preached and secured $338.50, cheerfully given for Millsaps College. Bishop Galloway and A. F. Watkins represented the interests of the endowment fund at the Meridian District Conference, held at Enterprise, and secured $620.45. Later E. F. Edgar wrote that Waynesboro and State Line had given about $800 to the college.

The Bishop and the Agent in August designated Sunday, October 12, 1890, as Millsaps College Day, and requested that a sermon be preached on Christian Education and collections be taken for the endowment fund, and that appropriate exercises be held in each Sunday School and offerings solicited.

The Agent presented the claims of the college at a meeting in which he was assisting H. M. Ellis, pastor of the Adams circuit, and secured the sum of $1,006.50 in cash and subscriptions. J. T. Nicholson presented the claims of Millsaps at the Sam Jones camp meeting and secured more than $600. In September J. T. Nicholson preached at Paulding, his old home, and raised $192.00.

Mississippi State Sunday School Convention

This Convention met in Vicksburg August 6-7, for all Protestant churches, and was addressed in his strong way by Dr. C. K. Marshall. This was probably the beginning, or nearly so, of this Convention which was held annually over a period of time.

Camp Meetings

The annual camp meeting, Seashore Campground, was announced to begin July 11 and continue for ten days. The preachers were to be furnished sleeping accommodations free of charge and meals at the restaurant at half prices.

The Topisaw camp meeting was held August 8-15. Preachers present were Bishop Galloway, W. B. Lewis, P.E., Dr. T. S. West, J. W. McLaurin, W. W. Hopper, F. M. Keen, P. Howard, P. H. Howse, J. M. Pugh, and B. S. Rayner. On Sunday Bishop Galloway preached and raised about $1,350 for Millsaps College. J. W. McLaurin presented the Bible cause and raised $106. W. W. Hopper raised privately about $150 for the Conference Endowment Fund. There were 17 accessions, and the conversions were estimated at 100.

The camp meeting on the Sam Jones Campground was held August 22-31. There were 24 itinerant preachers and 17 local preachers present, and the meeting was attended by 800 persons or more. Earnestness and zeal marked the religious exercises, and the results were good, with 13 accessions.

The Palmer Creek camp meeting was attended by the following preachers: J. B. Walker, New Orleans, A. B. Nicholson, Geo. D. Anders, H. C. Brown, and M. L. White, besides J. H. Holland, the pastor (Whittington circuit). About 80 conversions were reported, and 22 accessions.

The Shiloh Campground was improved, the ground enclosed, and all paid for. The camp meeting was held by P. A. Johnston, P.E., D. P. Bradford, I. L. Peebles, J. F. Robinson, L. Kendall, T. J. Miller, C. C. Griffin, Dr. R. Burton, T. B. Holloman, and J. W. Adams. There were ten members received, and nine children baptized.

The New Prospect camp meeting, Vancleave charge, was reported to have been a good one. The preachers present were Geo. H. Thompson, A. B. Nicholson, I. W. Cooper, and Irvin Roberts.

The 19th Hennington camp meeting at Crystal Springs was held August 28-September 3, with 39 accessions and more than 50 conversions. Among the preachers were Bishop Galloway, W. C. Black, R. J. Jones, Jr., and J. W. Chambers.

Edward McGehee College for Girls

The name of the Woodville Female Seminary was changed during the year by the Board of Trustees to Edward McGehee College for Girls, and H. Walter Featherstun of Kavanaugh College accepted the position as principal. He was to bring his own corps of teachers with him and open the next session in September. This marked the end of Kavanaugh College.

The Ministerial Educational Association

The object of this Association was to aid young preachers to obtain a literary and theological education; it ordered the president and secretary to publish a short statement of its present needs, and asked for donations. The officers were A. F. Watkins, president; Major R. W. Millsaps, first vice-president; J. A. Ellis, second vice-president; B. F. Lewis, secretary; C. G. Andrews, treasurer; T. B. Holloman and W. B. Lewis, Managers. These composed the executive committee.

A High School Established

The Brookhaven District High School had been located at Adams, and it opened the first Monday in September. Professor Maxey Smith had charge of the school, with assistants. The trustees were J. P. Carruth, W. A. King, C. E. Hudson, S. J. Hodges, G. B. Smith, H. W. Wood, W. G. Felder, J. E. Carruth, T. R. Godbold, J. E. Denman, and the pastor of the church at Adams, ex-officio.

Dr. J. M. Sullivan

Dr. J. M. Sullivan, of Centenary College, contributed to the *Advocate* an article on astronomy, dealing especially with the planets Venus, Mars, and Jupiter, all above the horizon after sunset and in nearly a direct line from west to east. Dr. Sullivan, following his time of service at Centenary, has been connected with the faculty of Millsaps College for many years, and the lay leader of the Mississippi Conference for about a quarter of century, and at the time of this writing is still with us and is a blessing to both the college and the church.

Other Items of Interest

B. M. Palmer, a noted Presbyterian preacher in New Orleans, was president of the Southwestern Bible Society, of the American Bible Society, and J. W. McLaurin, of the Mississippi Conference, was District Superintendent for Louisiana and Mississippi.

R. D. Norsworthy, pastor of Crystal Springs, on his 53rd birthday was the recipient of much valuable pounding, from a pound of rice to a barrel of flour; and the presiding elder, W. B. Lewis, presented him with a beautiful gold watch, acting for a number of brethren and friends.

John A. Kern of Randolph-Macon College was elected to fill the chair in Vanderbilt University made vacant by the election of E. E. Hoss as editor of the *Nashville Christian Advocate.* Bishop Paul B. Kern is the son of this great teacher and saint.

H. C. Brown and L. Wallace Wood, under appointment and direction of I. W. Cooper, presiding elder, after consultation, changed charges, the former going to *Covington* and the latter to *Bay St. Louis.* The new pastor at Bay St. Louis wrote of his fine reception under such leadership as Hon. E. J. Bowers, Dr. R. J. Turner, J. C. Grimes, M. L. Ansley, W. F. Hall, and L. H. Hearin.

A new hymnal was issued, and W. C. Black in an article urged that the *new* hymns be used as well as the old, and offered suggestions as to its use.

The Mississippi State Constitutional Convention met in Jackson in October. Lt. Governor J. P. Carter, the president of this convention, was a prominent member of the church at Hattiesburg.

Reports from the Field

Geo. W. Huff reported the work of the *Livingston circuit* was hindered by much high water. A vessel had actually arrived in front of the parsonage at Port Vincent and unloaded many good things, from a barrel of flour to nutmegs. By June there had been 19 accessions and two new Sunday Schools organized.

J. G. Cammack had the sorrow of losing his little daughter, Lennie, by death. Interest was increasing in church support, and he hoped to go beyond 50 per cent above last year's assessments, which were paid. The presiding elder, P. A. Johnston, took a collection and nearly doubled that of last year, and also secured for Millsaps College $35.00 in notes.

J. M. Morse reported that *Morton* was now a station and the people were well pleased with it. Their union Sunday School was a Methodist School, and had increased from 40 to 80 members. D. P. Bradford was pastor.

R. B. Downer reported a great meeting at *Ellisville,* assisted by W. W. Hopper, Agent of the Conference Endowment Fund; eight accessions, many conversions. The circuit was composed of Eastabuchie, Laurel, Sandersville, and Ellisville, where the parsonage was located.

F. M. Featherstun reported a meeting at *Woodville* in which 13 were converted.

T. L. Mellen, financial agent E.M.F. College, issued a call for more money, saying that Meridian should give to aid in the improvement of the property and to meet the growing demands upon the College which was under the leadership of Charles W. Anderson, a layman who was president.

M. L. White, of the *Vancleave circuit,* in closing the fourth year, was assisted in a profitable meeting by J. H. Holland which resulted in 22 accessions.

Rocky Springs circuit, V. D. Skipper, pastor, received 139 new members by September as the result of successful meetings. At *Hermanville,* J. M. Morse, N. J. Roberts, and W. P. Jones assisted, with six additions; at *Center Grove,* J. M. Morse assisted, with 49 additions and 60 conversions; at *Ingleside,* J. M. Morse assisted with 24 additions; at *Hickory Ridge,* N. J. Roberts assisted.

At *Campbellsville*, J. C. Ellis, pastor, there were seven additions and at Bethel, two, in the meetings.

Americus circuit reported five meetings held. The pastor, Lyman R. Roberts, was assisted by M. L. White, S. D. Goff, D. C. Rawls, Ervin Roberts, James King, and W. W. Broom; all of them were local preachers except the first named. There were 20 accessions, twice as many conversions, and 25 children baptized.

At *Carthage*, J. M. Morse, pastor, the meeting began on the first Sunday in July with V. D. Skipper preaching, and 11 accessions resulted.

Utica circuit, N. J. Roberts, pastor, reported a meeting at *Bear Creek* with 39 accessions and 50 conversions. The pastor did the preaching at first, with L. S. Jones preaching the last two days. The circuit reported 80 received, and 33 children baptized.

At *Live Oak circuit*, Woodville District, E. T. Denson, pastor, in a meeting at *Pine Grove* church was assisted by C. McDonald, P. E., and by some laymen.

Marvin circuit, J. F. Robinson, supply pastor, reported 16 accessions at *Harrisville*, 22 accessions at *Steen's Creek*, and 13 at *Richland Academy*.

St. Helena circuit reported 11 accessions at *Center's* and *Day's* churches combined.

Williamsburg reported 31 accessions with preaching done by H. J. Moore, E. J. Taylor, and W. W. Ridgeway of the Methodist Protestant Church.

Mt. Hermon on the Franklington (La.) charge reported 14 accessions. W. L. Linfield was pastor.

Oak Ridge and *Belle Hill* on the *Warren circuit*, W. D. Dominick, pastor, reported 51 accessions.

Springfield, H. Mellard, pastor, reported 11 accessions in a meeting assisted by D. L. Mitchell.

Trenton, M. J. Miller, pastor, reported 14 accessions at Trenton.

Walnut Grove circuit, J. M. Cowan, pastor, reported 41 accessions, many conversions, and 17 children baptized.

South Warren circuit, with W. M. Stevens pastor, held meetings at all preaching places with good results. The pastor was assisted by C. K. Marshall, N. B. Harmon, C. W. Crisler, R. J. Jones, and J. A. Ellis, P. E.

Marion circuit received 36 members in meetings by October. J. N. Ware was the pastor. Fifteen children had been baptized.

On *Rocky Springs circuit,* J. M. Morse assisted V. D. Skipper, pastor, in four meetings, and 159 were received.

Adams church on the *Brookhaven circuit,* with William Hoover, the supply pastor, witnessed eight accessions.

At *Natchez* a three weeks' meeting resulted in 55 accessions. Geo. S. Inge assisted the pastor, W. E. Ballard.

Poplarville circuit, with J. D. Hays as pastor, witnessed a meeting at *Purvis* with 17 accessions; one at *Poplarville* with 13 accessions; and another at *Lumberton* with seven accessions.

Killian Chapel on the Springfield (La.) charge—*Ponchatoula*—reported 11 accessions and 12 children baptized. Hervie Mellard, pastor, began to preach in a private dwelling in April, but at the close of the year reported a nice church erected at a cost of $400, and a total of 21 members in all at this place.

Paulding circuit, R. F. Witt, pastor, held five meetings with a total of 49 accessions and 26 infants baptized. Preaching was done by J. T. Nicholson, L. J. Jones, J. V. Baldwin, and T. L. Mellen, P.E.

Dedications

T. L. Mellen dedicated the *Spring Hill church* in Kenper county in February. J. W. McLaurin, V. D. Skipper, J. M. Morse, W. W. Morse had gone out from the old log church which was destroyed by a cyclone; the new building cost $600.

W. C. Black dedicated the new church at *Carthage,* J. M. Morse, pastor, after raising $350.00 to pay the indebtedness. The service was held the fourth Sunday in January.

The church at *Rolling Fork* was announced to be dedicated by

Bishop Galloway the first Sunday in October, 1890, J. A. B. Jones, pastor.

The church at *Pelahatchie* was dedicated by C. G. Andrews.

The church at *Scranton,* Geo. H. Thompson, pastor, was dedicated by C. W. Carter, editor of the *Advocate.*

New Churches—Parsonages

There was a new parsonage at *Ellisville,* one that lasted with improvements until 1950, when it was torn down and completely rebuilt.

Oak Ridge was building a large and commodious house of worship, and money was raised to build at *Belle Hill.* These were on the *Warren circuit.*

Chapel Hill, Porterville Charge

The *Chapel Hill* church was first called *Narkeeta Chapel,* being organized about 1875, when the first building was erected. The present building was erected in 1890, and was called Chapel Hill. J. T. Abney was the first pastor of the new church, 1891, and lived at *Lauderdale.* The church was organized by J. C. Brogan, and for a time was used as a union church, not only by the Methodists, but by the Baptists and Presbyterians.

Marked Progress at Daleville

The congregation of Daleville, the seat of Cooper Institute, with a total membership of 23 last year, built a handsome house of worship costing $1,000, and asked to be made a station. About 45 members were added during the year, and a parsonage was purchased at a cost of $800.

CHAPTER XXII

1891

Conference at Canton

The Mississippi Annual Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, met in Canton, December 17-22, 1890, Bishop Charles B. Galloway presiding. On call of the roll by C. G. Andrews, 98 ministers and 12 laymen were marked present at the opening, or were present during the session.

The Secretaries remained unchanged from last year, except W. R. Sims was elected Recording Secretary. The Conference sat from 9:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.

The usual committees were appointed, and visitors were introduced: Dr. H. C. Morrison, Missionary Secretary (afterwards bishop); T. B. Holt, treasurer Board of Missions; Dr. Palmore, Editor *St. Louis Advocate;* Mrs. E. E. Wiley, president Woman's Department of Church Extension; Rev. E. Cottrell, commissioner of Education, Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, afterwards Bishop; Dr. C. W. Carter, Editor, *New Orleans Advocate.*

Admissions—Demissions

Thirteen were *received on trial*: Henry W. Wallace, E. Byron O'Quin, John W. Crisler, John W. Tinnin, George A. Guice, Henry G. Hawkins, Wiley Jones Ferguson, W. J. Dawson, G. R. Ellis, James T. Abney, H. B. Trevilion, and Kirby Smith Enochs. Edwin L. Rawls was received from the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Ordinations

William Winans Drake, Jas. G. Galloway, Hicks M. Ellis, Lewis W. Wood, Jas. M. Cowan, Wm. P. Jones, and Jas. G. Cammack, traveling preachers, were ordained deacons; and E. Byron O'Quin, Jas. A. Hobbs, Rufus C. Gavin, and Robert B. G. Bales, local preachers, were ordained deacons.

R. A. Breland, Martin L. Burton, Benjamin M. Drake, George H. Galloway, and William H. Huntley, traveling preachers, were ordained elders.

Ministerial Losses

J. N. Tucker, W. W. Hopper, and A. C. Flowers were *located* at their own request.

R. M. Saunders was *transferred* to the Tennessee Conference and appointed President of Martin College; J. J. Lovett to the Indian Mission Conference and appointed to Talequah; E. T. Denson to the Louisiana Conference and appointed to Thiboudeaux and Houma.

Two of the preachers had died, D. W. Dillehay and James A. Godfrey.

John D. Hays

John D. Hays was born in Twiggs county, Georgia, November 4, 1827. In the following year his parents moved to Marengo county, Alabama, and in 1836 to Lauderdale county, Mississippi, where he spent the early part of his life. In November 1844, he was converted and joined the church under Rev. C. C. Calloway; he was received into full fellowship in the church in October 1845. He soon heeded the call to preach, and although blind, he did not hesitate to give his all to the work. He was licensed to preach on October 11, 1849, by William A. Smythe, P. E., by order of the Quarterly Conference. He spent the years of 1850 and 1851 in school preparing for his life's work.

He supplied the DeKalb circuit during 1857, then in the Alabama Conference. He was a local preacher till the latter part of 1861, when he was received on trial into the Mississippi Conference, and for 29 years he did effective and faithful work in it as a pastor. He married Miss Martha Barnes in 1882, in Hinds county, who proved to be a very helpful, devoted wife. Poplarville was the last charge he served, and he had been appointed to Covington, but before he could reach his appointment, he died at Terry on December 29, 1890. He baptized the writer in his infancy.

Deaths

Julian M. Foote, born in Clermont county, Ohio, August 10, 1812, came to Port Gibson in 1834, and lived there till the date of his death, January 21, 1891. Through the 57 years of his residence he bore himself as a Christian gentleman. For nearly half a century he was a Methodist.

Mrs. W. T. Beall, wife of Dr. W. T. Beall, born in New Orleans, December 2, 1835, died at Crystal Springs, January 25, 1891.

Rev. Franklin Wilson Sharbrough died in Leland, California, February 4, 1891. Born in Alabama on April 24, 1827, he married Mrs. Amanda Neill, formerly Miss Bridger, in November 1852, and settled in Jasper county, near the present town of Sylvarena in Smith county, Mississippi, on a farm, traveling neighboring circuits. He lived in Brookhaven for four years, where his wife died, leaving 10 children. He located in 1874. His oldest son, Malachi B. Sharbrough was received on trial a year later, and had a long and useful life in the ministry in Mississippi, and also in California.

Mrs. Jane Penn, wife of Rev. J. V. Penn, died on June 17, 1891, being nearly 20 years of age. She was converted and joined the church under the ministry of P. A. Johnston, and had married J. V. Penn on January 20, 1890.

Dr. E. R. Applewhite died at his home in Lincoln county on June 26, 1891. He was born in Fordsville, now Sandy Hook in Marion county, June 16, 1816. He was a useful physician for 38 years, was early a Methodist.

Mrs. Kate Jordan died on September 15, 1891, aged 38. Born January 30, 1853, in Harrison county, she married Rev. J. L. Jordan on April 28, 1872, and was the mother of seven children, two of whom preceded her to the grave. She joined the church when young, and was converted at the Seashore Camp Meeting in 1872. Mrs. B. Z. Welch of Biloxi is her daughter.

Dr. C. W. Bufkin, family physician, wrote a beautiful sketch of the life and death of *Sue Evelyn Turner*, daughter of J. S. and Mrs. Lena Turner of Vossburg. Born July 1, 1878, she died at Vossburg, October 24, 1891.

East End Church, Meridian

The East End church was organized on January 4, 1891, by H. C. Brown, the first pastor. A small group of Christian people used a storehouse owned by J. F. Mars for prayer meetings and Sunday School prior to the organization. Mr. and Mrs. Mars were among the first to enroll as members. The church conducted services in the East End Schoolhouse, until the church building was ready for use, which was dedicated in 1893 during the pastorate of B. F. Lewis.

Charles Kimball Marshall

Dr. Marshall was born in Durham, Maine, August 29, 1811, and his early years were spent in the country. His parents moved to Boston when he was very young, and he enjoyed the best school advantages. He was brought up in a Christian home, which was Calvinistic, but he became a Methodist when 15, embracing all its teachings. In 1829 his father resolved to move to the West, and in New Orleans Charles found employment and remained there till he entered Woodward College in Cincinnati; his means becoming scarce he returned to New Orleans and secured a situation in a manufacturing plant.

He was licensed to preach by the New Orleans station church on May 5, 1832, Barnabus Pipkin being presiding elder. On his way back to Woodward College, he was invited to preach at Natchez, and made such an impression that he was induced to supply the pulpit the remainder of the year. In the fall of 1832 he was admitted into the Mississippi Conference, in which he filled leading appointments, and was soon known as one of the best preachers in the country. He was agent of Centenary College for four years. He married Miss Amanda Vick, daughter of Newett Vick, founder of Vicksburg. He was a genius, well versed in theology, architecture, engineering, astronomy, political economy, and hymnology.

He died peacefully at Vicksburg, January 14, 1891. He had passed through 13 epidemics of yellow fever. In Crawford Street Church, Vicksburg, funeral services were led by the pastor, W. B. Lewis, assisted by R. J. Jones who made the address, and by J. A. Ellis, and he was buried in the city cemetery.

Francis Marion Featherstun

On January 30, 1891, a little more than one month after Francis M. Featherstun had been appointed to Woodville Station for the second time, he passed to his reward. He was born in Robertson county, Tennessee, September 24, 1827; before he was grown he moved to Mississippi and settled in Warren county. He married Miss Elizabeth Rundell in June 1848, and 10 children were born to them, two of them becoming Methodist preachers and members of the Mississippi Conference, H. Walter Featherstun and Lewis R. Featherstun. In 1879 he married Miss Virginia Markham of Warren county, and to them a daughter was born.

He was licensed to preach in 1853, and was admitted into the Mississippi Conference and appointed to Warren Colored Mission. He gave four years of service to the Negroes. He spent two years, 1866-1867, in Tennessee, and four years, 1881-1884, in California, and with this exception he spent his full labors in the Mississippi Conference, serving on missions seven years, in stations eight years, and as presiding elder eight years. Hiwassee College conferred the degree of D.D. on him in 1885. He was the great-grandfather of H. W. F. Vaughan of our Conference.

Some Items of Interest

R. J. Jones, W. C. Black, and W. B. Lewis were continued on the Publishing Committee of the *New Orleans Christian Advocate.*

The Stewards for the Brookhaven District met on January 4, 1891, and decided to locate permanently a district parsonage at *Brookhaven.* R. S. Woodward was the new presiding elder.

H. D. Howell, pastor of Purvis circuit, wrote that he was delighted with his charge. E. H. Mounger, P.E., had just held the quarterly conference at *Lumberton,* where it was agreed to locate the parsonage, and to have it ready within three weeks.

W. B. Hines and wife celebrated their golden wedding on Tuesday, January 24, 1891, at Waynesboro.

The Trustees of the Seashore Campground met to take steps toward the camp meeting this year. The meeting of the Board was attended by C. F. Evans and J. A. Pearson, presiding elders of the New Orleans and Mobile Districts. The camp meeting was set to begin July 15.

G. R. Ellis, *Eastabuchie circuit,* had no parsonage to begin with, but within three months a comfortable parsonage had been built and paid for by free-will offerings, the work having been done largely by himself. There were eight appointments, extending 60 miles in length.

Children's Day was observed at *East End,* Meridian, the youngest of the Methodist churches in the city, three months old, with 135 present out of a roll of 144. Five united with the church. H. C. Brown was pastor, and J. B. Chatfield was superintendent.

W. E. Ballard, the able and popular pastor of the Jefferson Street Church, Natchez, continued very feeble; but the church was in excellent condition in every way. Rev. Mr. Hawley, late from Vanderbilt University, served the church as supply pastor.

District Conferences

The *Brandon* District Conference was held at Hickory on May 28-30 with P. A. Johnston, P.E., in the chair. Mrs. J. M. Weems, of Mexico, was present and made an address and raised $47.50 to help build a church in Mexico City. Dr. Watkins, agent for Millsaps College, was present and raised $180 for the Clara Chrisman Scholarship. J. M. Morse was pastor.

Bishop Galloway presided over the *Woodville* District Conference on Saturday at the church and on Sunday in the college hall, thus combining the district conference with the commencement of Edward McGehee College for Girls. The annual address was delivered by W. C. Black. Four received the degree of Bachelor of Arts: Maud Meyers, Eugenia Costley, Alma Belle Cain, and Ina Quin. The degree of Master of Arts was conferred on Mrs. Lucy Watts, a former graduate of the college, now occupying the chair of Mathematics.

The *Brookhaven* District Conference was held at Bogue Chitto on June 18-21 with R. S. Woodward, P.E., in the chair. Prof. R. S. Ricketts was secretary, and G. H. Galloway and L. W. Wood assistants. Friday afternoon was devoted to the interest of Sunday Schools, the exercises being conducted by B. F. Lewis, Secretary of the Sunday School Board. J. W. McLaurin represented the American Bible Society. Delegates to the Annual Conference were elected: L. T. Fitzhugh, C. E. Hudson, B. F. Goza, and J. E. Carruth.

The *Meridian* District Conference convened at State Line on July 2 with T. L. Mellen presiding. Sermons were preached by C. G. Andrews, D. C. Langford, L. P. Meador, and others. Y. Yoshioka from Japan preached two sermons. Delegates to the Annual Conference were elected: J. S. Turner, C. W. Anderson, L. P. Brown, and Rev. R. C. Gavin.

The *Vicksburg* District Conference was held at Fayette on July 2-4 with J. A. Ellis, P.E., in the chair. The opening sermon was preached by W. B. Lewis. Among the visitors were J. W. Chambers, of the Joint Board of Finance; W. D. Dominick, of the Book Depository in Jackson; A. F. Watkins, Agent of Millsaps College, who raised $101 for the Clara Chrisman Fund; J. W. McLaurin, American Bible Society; W. L. C. Hunnicutt, who raised $800 endowment for Centenary College; and D. L. Mitchell of the *Advocate* staff. Delegates to the Annual Conference were elected: T. A. Holloman, W. D. Brown, R. W. Conway, and J. G. Guice; alternates, J. W. Neill and W. A. Gunning.

The *Jackson* District Conference met at Raymond on July 3 with D. A. Little, P.E., in the chair. Delegates to the Annual Conference were elected: R. W. Millsaps, E. C. Postell, D. Bunch, and J. T. H. Laird; alternates, Peter James and J. W. Ratcliff.

The *Seashore* District Conference met in Bay St. Louis on July 23, being the first such Conference to be held there. It was called to order by E. H. Mounger, P.E., and H. J. Harris was elected secretary. Bishop Galloway arrived about 10 o'clock, A.M. The Bishop preached twice. A. F. Watkins, President Anderson of the East Mississippi Female College, J. W. McLaurin of the American Bible Society, and H. D. Van Valkenburgh of the Louisiana Conference were present, representing various interests. The following were elected delegates to the Annual Conference: Rev. H. J. Harris, S. S. Cope, Dr. E. F. Griffin, and W. K. Ramsey.

Missionary Interests

The Mississippi Conference was represented in virtually every foreign missionary field occupied by the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, and another missionary had just been appointed and was accepted by the Bishop in charge of the field he wished to serve. A meeting of the Conference Board of Missions was held in Jackson on Tuesday, June 4, at First Church for the special purpose of appointing one or more missionaries as authorized by the last Annual Conference. The name or names of those selected are not given, but it is supposed that at this time W. W. Cammack was chosen as a missionary to the Indians of this Conference, and at the Conference session of 1891 he was assigned to that work.

T. L. Mellen was undertaking to get 10 subscriptions of $100 each for five years, and he felt sure that he had five of them and was looking for the sixth, among the laymen. The money was to go to the employment of a missionary to Japan.

Commencement Occasions

The sermon of the Port Gibson Female College was preached by W. C. Black on June 14; B. F. Lewis preached at night. Dr. Hunnicutt delivered the literary address, and J. A. B. Jones the baccalaureate address. The following received the degree of Master of English Literature: Anette L. Beers, Anna N. Compton, Mary A. Compton, Jennie R. Jeffries, Jennie O. Lane, Ethel N. Martin, Nellie L. Rae, and Anna V. Richmond. The school was presided over by Miss M. E. Compton.

The sermon for the East Mississippi Female College, Meridian, was preached by W. B. Lewis on June 14; the address before the department of art was delivered by A. F. Watkins on June 15; and the baccalaureate address by W. R. Sims on June 18. There were seven graduates with the degree of Master of English Literature: Ruth Gully, Ida Lewis, Sallie Lyon, Carol Mellen, Kate Selby, and Mary White.

James M. Gann

At Poplarville on August 22, 1891, James M. Gann went home to God. He had passed his three score years and ten, having been born on February 16, 1821, probably in Marion county, Alabama, where he was reared. His educational advantages were limited to the common schools of the day, but he made the best of them and came to be a preacher of rare ability.

Some time after his conversion he was licensed to preach, and used his talents as a local preacher until he was admitted on trial into the Alabama Conference in 1854. Transferred to the Mississippi Conference in 1866, he served DeKalb circuit for four years very acceptably. In December 1869, he transferred to the North Alabama Conference for the purpose of disposing of some property, and then came back to Mississippi and served Spring Hill circuit, which included in its bounds Cooper Institute at Daleville. Here three daughters and probably a son finished their education. In 1880 he was placed on the Brandon District, and served for three years and a half until his health failed and he had to be relieved of his work in the middle of the year. At the following Conference he was superannuated and remained in that relation until the call to come to his final reward. Rufus N. Gann of Canton is a grandson of James M. Gann, and G. R. Williams of the North Mississippi Conference is a great-grandson.

Reports from the Pastors

A glowing and hopeful report of the work on the *Vossburg* circuit was made by the pastor, B. S. Rayner.

H. D. Howell, of the *Purvis* circuit, told of the completed parsonage at *Lumberton*, the first pastor's home to be built there. Over 40 members had been added to the church.

M. H. Moore, pastor, wrote that the *Columbia* circuit had developed within the last 15 months from a $325 to a $600 appointment, due to the efforts of the presiding elders, I. W. Cooper and E. H. Mounger. A neat parsonage was a sign of progress. A good meeting by I. W. Cooper began by an offering for Conference collections of $145.

I. W. Cooper wrote of *Amite City*, Louisiana, where he assisted Geo. D. Anders in a meeting. He says, "Bro. Dan Kelly, a young minister of sweet spirit, is preaching in the waste places near the city."

W. G. Backus, *Heidelberg* circuit, reported the second quarterly conference at *Paulding* on April 25-26 with E. H. Mounger, the presiding elder, preaching five good sermons. A neat parsonage was bought at *Heidelberg* for the new circuit for $600, and was paid for.

T. S. West, of *Wesson,* reported that the meeting there where he was assisted by Geo. S. Inge, resulted in about 100 members being added to the different churches

A meeting at *Carthage,* J. G. Cammack, pastor, assisted by I. L. Peebles, resulted in five accessions.

A meeting at *Hattiesburg,* where J. S. Parker, pastor, was assisted by J. W. Chambers, I. L. Peebles, and J. J. Smylie, resulted in 26 accessions.

R. B. Downer reported a meeting beginning June 17 at *Ellisville,* where he was assisted by J. T. Nicholson.

N. M. Clark reported that the *Lauderdale* circuit in the last few years had been reduced from nine to four appointments. It now had a membership of 220, and two churches had recently been built, Lauderdale and *Soule's Chapel.* This was the first house of worship Lauderdale had ever had. In September two meetings were held with 13 accessions.

J. C. Ellis, *Raymond* circuit, reported that a meeting at *Byram,* assisted by J. G. Cammack, resulted in 15 accessions.

J. T. Nicholson at *Edwards* was assisted by W. B. Lewis and F. M. Keen, in a meeting that resulted in 12 additions.

G. W. Huff, *North Wilkinson* circuit, reported meeting at *Hopewell* in which there were 25 additions, 30 conversions, and 12 children baptized. The preaching was done by H. W. Featherstun and W. T. Woodward.

C. W. Crisler, *Washington* circuit, reported a meeting at *Locust Grove,* assisted by John A. Ellis and M. L. Burton, with five added to the church; and also a good meeting at *Linwood,* assisted by E. A. Flowers, with seven additions.

W. B. Hines, *Vossburg* circuit, reported six meeting held, two at one church. In all there were 57 additions and 47 children baptized. The preaching was done by W. W. Hopper, E. F. Edgar, J. P. Drake, and J. N. Ware. Vossburg and *Pachuta* had Missionary Societies. The churches raised a total of $2,215.

J. H. Evans, *Williamsburg circuit,* reported a meeting at *Good*

Hope, assisted by N. B. Young; the church was revived and seven members added.

George Bancroft, on the *Porterville* circuit, held meetings in which he was assisted by J. M. Pugh and D. C. Langford, and local preachers from Alabama, and 16 were received into the church to date.

D. G. W. Ellis, *Caseyville* circuit, held three good meetings with eight additions.

R. S. Gale, *Shiloh* circuit, held six meetings and received 22 accessions.

W. W. Cammack, *Amite* circuit, received 63 accessions, built one new church, and had the material on the ground for another. In his meetings he was assisted by N. J. Roberts, W. W. Simmons, J. N. Tucker, G. W. Huff, G. D. Anders, Wiley Roberts, and Hiram Day.

J. M. Morse, the pastor at *Newton* (a half-station) reported two meetings held. He was assisted at *Hickory* by D. P. Bradford and R. H. Barr, and received 41 accessions; he was assisted at *Newton* by V. D. Skipper, W. W. Morse, and J. T. Nicholson. There were 83 accessions during the year.

T. S. West, *Wesson*, received 144 members making in that circuit about 600 members.

I. L. Peebles, of *Brandon* held a meeting in October assisted by D. P. Bradford, J. T. Nicholson and V. D. Skipper.

Miscellaneous

The church at *Shubuta*, J. P. Drake, pastor, was dedicated on the third Sunday in June by Bishop Galloway; the cost of the building was $2,500. This was followed by a great meeting in which John Boring of Tennessee was the preacher and L. R. Gilreath the song leader.

T. L. Mellen announced two Sunday School conventions: at *Shubuta*, September 21-22, C. C. Andrews to preside; at *Lauderdale*, September 24-25, J. W. Chambers to preside. H. G. Hawkins, secretary, reported that the Shubuta meeting was well attended and successful.

W. H. Lane was licensed to preach, and entered Montrose High School.

B. F. Lewis wrote his Salutatory in the issue of December 3, as assistant editor of the *Advocate*. C. W. Carter, D.D., continued as editor.

Camp Meetings

The *Bluff Creek* camp meeting, near Clinton, La., was held for the second year. Among the preachers present were C. McDonald, P.E.; W. L. C. Hunnicutt, P. Howard, W. D. Dominick, J. R. Whittington, J. T. Leggett, and B. Jones; and 17 were added to the church.

The *Salem* camp meeting, Lyman R. Roberts, pastor, was held October 8-11. The ministers present were T. W. Adams, M. L. White, Ervin Roberts, James King, and J. H. Havens, the last three being local preachers. This old camp meeting was established in 1826, according to the report, the first camp meeting being held by Thomas S. Abernathy and J. P. Haney; the next by O. L. Nash and R. H. Herbert; the third by William H. Turnley and J. W. Mann; and the next year by Jeptha Hughes and Preston Cooper. Richmond Nolly and John Shrock were pastors in this area as early as 1813.

The *Shiloh* camp meeting, October 9-14, witnessed 17 sermons by I. L. Peebles, C. C. Griffin, J. J. Smylie, V. D. Skipper, D. P. Bradford, J. F. Robinson, and two local preachers, Lewis Kendall and M. J. Miller. V. D. Skipper held a children's service on Tuesday evening, and 18 children from six to 15 years joined the church; there were 32 added in all.

The *Leaf River* camp meeting at Moselle, was established this year by G. R. Ellis. The first sermon was preached by L. W. Wood. Other preachers were there: T. S. West, J. S. Parker, H. D. Howell, H. J. Harris, A. F. Watkins, W. W. Hopper, A. B. Nicholson,

N. B. Young, Jas. Taylor, David Merchant, and W. G. Evans. As many as 1,500 persons attended; there were 15 accessions and many conversions. A total of 61 on the charge was added during the year.

The *New Prospect* camp meeting, M. L. White, pastor, held its twelfth annual camp meeting, beginning October 23, 1891. The preaching was done by T. W. Adams, J. H. Holland, E. H. Mounger, L. R. Roberts, and James King. After the sermon on Sunday by Dr. Mounger, J. H. Holland administered the communion, with 126 persons communing. There were 16 added to the church, 10 conversions, and 13 children baptized. There were 71 accessions on the charge during the year.

Our Colleges

The Colleges, Centenary, Whitworth Female, Port Gibson Female, East Mississippi Female, were all reported in prosperous condition; and Edward McGehee College for Girls, the successor to Woodville Female College, under the presidency of H. W. Featherstun, gave assurance of a useful and prosperous future. Dr. Featherstun had been for four years president of Kavanaugh College at Holmesville, Pike County.

Millsaps College

Major R. W. Millsaps modified his original offer to the new college and paid $25,000 on the endowment in view of the progress made by the Church in raising $50,000. The Board of Education reported to the Conference in 1890 that $65,118.01 had been secured as follows: $31,000 in cash, $27,000 in notes, and $7,118.01 in subscriptions not yet converted into notes. A. F. Watkins was continued as agent for the college, and John A. Lewis of Meridian was elected a member of the Board of Trustees in place of M. M. Evans, resigned.

Bishop Galloway, president of the Board, published the endowment of scholarships in the college for the benefit of worthy young men. One was to be called the Clara Chrisman Scholarship in honor of Miss Clara Chrisman who lost her life in the Conemaugh Valley flood at Johnstown, while on her way as a missionary to Brazil.

T. B. Holloman made an appeal, especially to the laity, for aid to young preachers of the Mississippi Conference. C. C. Andrews of Meridian was treasurer, and M. L. Burton of Natchez was secretary. Mrs. B. F. Lewis made the first subscription of $100. Dr. T. S. West subscribed the same amount.

Holly Springs secured the subscription of $22,500 as a building fund, should Millsaps College be located there, and appointed a committee to secure more.

The Board of Trustees met in Jackson on February 4, for consideration of the bids of the various places; among them were Winona, Brandon, Verona, and Holly Springs. Because of a request from Jackson for further information as to the time of payment, the Board passed resolutions defining the conditions, and adjourned till February 18.

The family of the late Dr. C. K. Marshall decided to present his library to Millsaps College, a valuable gift.

The Board of Trustees of Millsaps College met in Winona, March 18, for the purpose of selecting a location for the college. Bishop Galloway was in the chair. All the members of the Board were present, except Dr. J. J. Wheat, who was sick in Sardis. Durant also was offered as the place of location. In executive session *Jackson* was selected by a good majority, and the selection was made unanimous.

It was announced in April that the college would be located on the Hemingway property, north of Jackson. There were 58 acres of land and a residence estimated at $10,000. Subsequently the acreage was increased.

A. F. Watkins, agent, reported that the plan by Hunt and Lamb, of Chattanooga, had been selected, and the cost of the main building would be $25,000. In August 1891, the college had a working endowment of $60,000.

Dr. W. T. J. Sullivan, of the North Mississippi Conference, wrote approving the location of the college and the plan of the main building, a picture of which appeared in the *Advocate* on November 19, 1891. The cornerstone was laid on the final day of the Mississippi Conference, with Bishop E. R. Hendrix and others speaking.

Ecumenical Conference

The second Ecumenical Conference was held in the Metropolitan church, Washington, beginning October 7, 1891, with 476 delegates present, representing 29 branches of Methodism. It was called to order by Bishop Thomas Bowman, of the Methodist Episcopal Church; on the platform was Bishop Keener among many others. Bishop Galloway delivered an address on the third day on the status of Methodism in this country, speaking for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Chancellor Edward Mayes of Mississippi read a paper on the fifth day on "Christian Resources of the New World." E. H. Mounger, Bishop Charles B. Galloway, Chancellor Edward Mayes, and Honorable W. L. Nugent represented the Mississippi Conference.

Richard Abbey

Richard Abbey passed away at the home of his only child, Mrs. Julia Magruder, in Yazoo City, October 23, 1891. Born near Rochester, New York, November 16, 1805, the son of Richard and Dolly Abbey, he came to Natchez in 1821, seeking employment to aid in support of his mother. He worked in the mercantile establishment of P. F. Merrick and rapidly advanced to the headship of the business, because of his business ability. In early life he became a Christian and united with the church, and was for years a class leader, steward, and Sunday School worker. He was much interested in the Temperance Society, helped to organize the first in the southwest, and represented his county several times in the Prohibition Conventions. He married Miss Julia Barthurst, of Natchez, May 31, 1831.

He became a noted writer, both in newspaper work and in the production of books. He moved to Yazoo county in 1839, was licensed to preach in 1841, and gave himself to the work of a local preacher until 1857. He was elected financial secretary of the Publishing House in 1858, and was the sole guard against fire and sword during the dark days of the Civil War. In 1867 he returned to Mississippi and entered the regular work, but in 1872 he was appointed special agent of the Publishing House, with headquarters in Washington until 1881. Thenceforth he was on the supernumerary list.

CHAPTER XXIII

1892

Conference at Brookhaven

The Conference this year, December 9-14, 1891, met at Brookhaven with Bishop Eugene R. Hendrix presiding. There were 99 preachers present during the session and 18 lay delegates: Irvin Miller, W. M. Thornton, W. H. White, J. S. Turner, C. W. Anderson, Jesse Byrd, T. A. Holloman, W. A. Gunning, R. W. Millsaps, J. T. H. Laird, L. T. Fitshugh, B. F. Goza, C. E. Hudson, R. S. Ricketts, E. F. Griffin, S. S. Cope, H. C. Newsom, and W. O. Ligon. All of them have now passed to their reward.

T. B. Holt, treasurer of the General Board of Missions, H. C. Morrison, Missionary Secretary, M. B. Chapman, Editor *St. Louis Advocate,* John W. Ritchey of the North Mississippi Conference, Leslie C. Powell of the Tennessee Conference, W. B. Murrah, Vice-president of Whitworth College, and Walter R. Lambuth, M.D., missionary to Japan, were introduced to the Conference.

Admissions—Demissions

Eleven were *admitted on trial:* Harrison B. Vandenberg, Thomas J. Norsworthy, Charles C. Evans, Paul M. Brown, Thomas E. Winecoff, William T. Woodward, John P. Haney, Joseph Casey Campbell, William T. Currie, William T. Griffin, and Ira F. Hawkins. George W. Ferrer was *readmitted.*

James M. Weems was received by transfer from the Central Mexican Conference.

W. W. Moore, W. P. Meador, E. Byron O'Quin, and Henry G. Hawkins were *discontinued* at their own request.

William Winans Drake was given a *local* relation.

Harrison Bradford was transferred to North Texas Conference and appointed to Northam.

Five preachers had died during the year: John D. Hays, Charles K. Marshall, Francis M. Featherstun, James M. Gann, and Richard Abbey.

Conference Claimants

The Joint Board of Finance set the assessment for Conference Claimants at $5,000. This was a step forward in their meager support.

Whitworth College

A communication was received from James A. Hoskins asking the appointment of a committee to consider matters relative to the deed to Whitworth College. The committee, composed of R. J. Jones, chairman, J. T. H. Laird, secretary, W. C. Black, T. S. West, R. D. Norsworthy, John S. Turner, and W. A. Gunning, made the following report and recommendation: "After carefully considering all attainable facts bearing upon the case we have reached the conclusion that it is questionable whether M. J. Whitworth, in his deed of gift to the Board of Trustees of Whitworth College, intended to secure to himself and his heirs two scholarships in perpetuity or whether he simply aimed to reserve the said scholarship during his lifetime. . . . It is the sense of this Conference that the Board of Trustees of Whitworth College should, at as early a date as practicable, give this matter their most careful attention, and that in their final action they should be governed solely by the principles of Christian equity."

A Returned Missionary

J. M. Weems and his wife, after three years of missionary service in Mexico, returned to this Conference. He was appointed pastor at Brookhaven.

The Missionary Debt

Bishop Hendrix appointed T. L. Mellen as solicitor for the Mississippi Conference under Dr. Lambuth's plan for paying off the missionary debt of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which was probably more than a hundred thousand dollars. The following were appointed district solicitors: W. A. Gunning, T. B. Holloman, M. L. Burton, P. A. Johnson, M. H. Moore, and J. V. Penn.

Mrs. Samuel Davis

Mrs. Susan Davis, widow of Samuel Davis, died at Ramsey, Harrison county, on January 21, 1892, at the home of her daughter, where she had spent the last 20 years of her life. She was a native of North Carolina and moved to Jackson county with her parents, William and Sabra Goff, in 1818. She was a member of the Methodist Church for 70 years; from 1821 to 1868 she and her husband were among the chief supporters of the church. They were pioneers in the establishment of Salem campground in Jackson county, where for fifty years they kept a free tent. She was the mother of 13 children.

E. R. Strickland

Erastus R. Strickland, a superannuate since 1877, died at his home near Summit in February 24, 1892. He was born in Merideth Square, Delaware county, New York, April 6, 1807, and joined the Methodist Church at the age of 18. He was licensed as an exhorter in 1834 and as a local preacher in 1835, the year that he moved to Neshoba county, Mississippi. He was admitted on trial into the Mississippi Conference in 1838 at Grenada, and was appointed to the Louisville circuit, which included all of Winston and Oktibbeha counties and half of Choctaw county.

After one year he was appointed to the Paulding circuit, where he did a monumental work with H. J. Harris as junior preacher. They succeeded in organizing a camp meeting near Paulding, through the influence and assistance of Judge Mounger, General Watts, attorney for that district, and Ransom J. Jones, Sr., who was then a local preacher on the circuit—the father of the author. Members of both the Watts and Mounger families were converted and joined the Methodist Church. E. R. Strickland was a great church builder.

J. T. Nicholson

Joseph T. Nicholson suffered a complete breakdown at Natchez and had to surrender his work during the year. He recovered to serve light works for a brief period but lived as a superannuate till September 23, 1940. Bishop Hendrix appointed W. R. Sims of the University of Mississippi to serve Natchez during the vacation season and H. E. Partridge of the Florida Conference to complete the year until Annual Conference.

Three Noble Souls Translated

Mrs. Susan Priscilla Hawkins Magruder Drake, widow of Dr. B. M. Drake and mother of J. Perry Drake, died in April 1892, having passed her fourscore years. Mrs. Drake had been a member of the Washington church since 1878 and previous to that time had been a member since her student days at Elizabeth Academy at Union Chapel on the Natchez Trace.

Mrs. V. D. Skipper, daughter of J. H. Morse, a local preacher of Kemper county, was born March 16, 1850, married Rev. V. D. Skipper on July 14, 1878, and died on May 25, 1892. She was buried at Sharon.

Lorenzo Dow Langford, father of D. C. Langford and himself a local preacher, died at his home in Yazoo county on June 16, 1892. He was buried at Fletcher's Chapel.

District Conferences

Brandon District Conference was held at Carthage, April 15-17, C. McDonald, P.E., in the chair. Delegates elected to Annual Conference were: W. M. Thornton, Irvin Miller, J. S. Turner, and A. J. Brown.

Seashore District Conference met at Purvis, May 12-14, J. A. Ellis, P.E., in charge. There were 20 preachers present and a large number of laymen. A. F. Watkins represented Millsaps College. J. W. Chambers the Joint Board of Finance, and J. W. McLaurin the American Bible Society. Delegates elected to Annual Conference were: John A. McLeod, J. L. Dantzler, Rev. H. J. Harris, and S. S. Cope, with W. K. Ramsay and J. P. Carter as alternates. The following were elected trustees of Seashore campground: Dr. E. F. Griffin, W. A. White, J. L. Dantzler, and J. P. Carter.

Meridian District Conference met at Waynesboro, May 21-23, with T. L. Mellen, P.E., in the chair. There were 17 pastors and 25 lay delegates present. A. F. Watkins represented Millsaps College, B. F. Lewis the *Advocate,* and C. W. Anderson, president, spoke in behalf of East Mississippi Female College. Three of the delegates elected to Annual Conference were T. P. Bell, L. P. Brown, D. S. Harmon, with J. S. Turner and T. C. Harmon as alternates.

Woodville District Conference met on June 9-11, with P. A. Johnson, P.E., as the presiding officer. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference: D. E. Kelly, H. C. Newsom, W. O. Ligon, and A. Rousseaux; alternates, E. E. Richardson, R. J. Thomas, Robert Babington, and W. T. Holland.

J. W. Lambuth

James William Lambuth was born in Alabama, eight miles north of Demopolis, on March 2, 1830. His father, Rev. John R. Lambuth, was a son of Rev. William Lambeth, as the name was spelled in early days. After some years of service in the Mississippi Conference, mostly in Alabama, John R. Lambuth married Miss Nancy Kirkpatrick of Clarke county, Alabama, and retired to the local ministry. From 1829 to 1843 the Lambuth family made their home in Green county, Alabama, between the Tombigbee and Black Warrior rivers, near the present village of Forkland. Their oldest son, Alexander Drake, was born in Clarke county, and seven children were born in Green county: James William, John Wesley, Robert Wilkins, Elizabeth, Jennie, Bascom, and Nancy.

In 1843 the family moved to Madison county, Mississippi, and settled near the Natchez Trace, not far from Pearl River Academy, later known as Pearl River church and campground. Two other children were born in Mississippi, Martha and Sarah. The mother, Mrs. Nancy Kirkpatrick Lambuth, and her oldest son, Alexander Drake Lambuth, passed away in a few years after the family came to Mississippi and not long before the completion of the new home, which still stands as a reminder of golden days that are forever gone. John R. Lambuth married the second time Miss Laura Terry of Kentucky in 1848, who became the mother of six children: California, born in 1849, the year of the great gold rush; Florence, Henry, Clara, Laura, and an unnamed infant.

The year of the father's second marriage James William Lambuth went to the newly-established University of Mississippi and enrolled in the first student body. He was graduated in 1851, spent the year 1852 as pastor at Vernon, near the present town of Flora, and on October 10, 1853, married Mary Isabella McClellan of New York, Thomas C. Thornton officiating. At the Annual Conference of that year, held in Canton in November, he and his wife volunteered for service in China and went out in 1854, serving there and in Japan until his death on April 28, 1892. He was buried in Kobe, Japan. Mrs. J. W. Lambuth visited America more than once after the death of her distinguished husband but spent her last days in China and is buried at Shanghai.

The distinguished service of the Lambuth family to the cause of Christian missions is too long to be recounted here. Descendants of the second generation of the Lambuth family have made their homes, temporarily at least, on every one of the major continents of the world. The best-known member of the family was Bishop Walter R. Lambuth. His sister, Mrs. Nora Lambuth Park, born in

Mississippi during the War Between the States, passed away in China on July 5, 1949. The father of J. W. Lambuth passed away in 1864 and his brother, Robert Wilkins Lambuth, in 1867. The latter was a useful and honored member of the Mississippi Conference whose grandchildren are useful and honored members of the church and society in this State.

According to a cablegram, J. W. Lambuth's dying message was: "I fall at my post; send more men."

Golden Wedding

Bishop and Mrs. John C. Keener celebrated their Golden Wedding on May 19, 1892, and received a very gracious note of congratulations from the College of Bishops, signed by Bishops Wilson, Galloway, Hargrove, Granberry, Duncan, Hendrix, Key, and Fitzgerald. Bishop Galloway represented the College of Bishops on this occasion.

Commencements

E. H. Mounger preached the sermon to the Epworth League of Whitworth College on June 5, 1892, and I. W. Cooper preached the commencement sermon at Port Gibson College on June 12. C. G. Andrews preached the sermon at Montrose High School.

Bishop Galloway preached the sermon at Centenary College on May 29. He left New York on June 11 for his European trip, going first to the Irish Conference and then to the Wesleyan Conference at Bradford.

Edward McGehee College included June 12-14 in its closing exercises. J. M. Weems preached the sermon Sunday morning and Franklin N. Parker of New Orleans delivered the annual address. East Mississippi College commencement included Sunday, May 29. I. W. Cooper preached the sermon; T. M. Hartman of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church made an address on the occasion of an art exhibit and T. B. Holloman gave the commencement address. Misses Katie Meyer, Lillian Keeton, Hinda Soule, Emma

Sims, Lida Rew, Sallie Whitfield, and Eleanor Perry Mellen received the degree of Master of English Literature.

B. H. Rawls, pastor at Montrose, wrote that the Brandon District High School, located at Montrose, had grown in attendance until it numbered 160 pupils. At that time Professor L. D. McLaurin was at the head of the school.

Woman's Missionary Society

The annual Woman's Missionary Conference met at Vicksburg, June 25-27, 1892, with Mrs. Lillie Wimberly as president and Miss Agnes Chrisman as secretary. The annual sermon was preached by B. F. Jones, president of Port Gibson College. Miss Bettie Hughes of Daleville, a returned missionary from China, addressed the Conference.

The following officers were elected for the coming year: President, Miss Addie V. Marshall of Brookhaven; Vice-president, Mrs. L. H. Wimberly, Wesson, Recording secretary, Miss Annie Linfield, Crystal Springs; Treasurer, Miss Mary Andrews, Meridian; Auditor, Mrs. T. L. Mellen, Meridian; Editress, Mrs. E. D. Jones, Carlisle. The following district secretaries were elected:

Brandon District—Miss Bettie Watts	Newton
Brookhaven District—Miss Myra Magee	Wesson
Jackson District—Mrs. B. F. Lewis	Jackson
Meridian District—Miss Sallie Smylie	Meridian
Seashore District—Mrs. J. S. Parker	Hattiesburg
Vicksburg District—Mrs. W. B. Lewis	Vicksburg
Woodville District—Mrs. P. A. Johnston	Jackson, La.

Money was being raised by the Conference Society to place a memorial window in the chapel of Scarritt Bible and Training School in memory of Miss Clara Chrisman. The report of Mrs. Annie DeMoss, treasurer (daughter of the late C. K. Marshall), showed that a total had been raised by all auxiliaries of the Conference in the amount of $1,391.81 between March 1891, and March 1892.

Dedication of Churches

The new church at *Sharon*, Madison county, was dedicated by W. C. Black on May 15, 1892.

Soule's Chapel in Lauderdale county was dedicated by T. L. Mellen, presiding elder, also on May 15; he also dedicated the new church at Waynesboro on May 22. The latter church cost $2,847.60 furnished; J. V. Penn was the pastor.

The new church at *Camden* was dedicated by W. C. Black, who was once pastor there, the church taking the place of one destroyed by storm the year before. E. F. Edgar was the pastor.

New Parsonages

In June of this year B. F. Jones reported the building of a new parsonage at *Port Gibson.*

A new parsonage was built at *Westville.*

Mrs. W. R. Stuart of *Ocean Springs* wrote of the beginning of a parsonage project at that place. Bishop Keener, who was a summer resident of Ocean Springs for about 40 years, started the list of donors with a gift of one hundred dollars.

Levi Pearce

Levi Pearce died in Jackson, La., on July 26, 1892, aged nearly 84. He was reared in Anson county, North Carolina, where he united with the church in 1828. He moved to Madison county in 1832, was licensed to preach on September 12, 1834, Thomas Griffin being his presiding elder, and was admitted on trial into the Conference in 1835. He was discontinued for one year at his own request but was readmitted in 1838 and was a member of the Conference for about 55 years, 35 of them in active service. He filled all kinds of appointments and was presiding elder on the Yazoo and Vicksburg districts for eight years. Although a superannuate he was president of the Conference held in Lexington in 1865. He was a delegate to the General Conference several times.

He was first married to Miss Frances Valentine when 18 years old and after her death he married Miss Maria L. Henderson in 1836; there were two children by his first wife and six by the second. He went to British Honduras in 1868 and returned to Jackson, La., just in time to die. Descendants of Levi Pearce still live in Madison county and some in Honduras.

Louis Wallace Wood

Louis W. Wood was born in New Orleans, March 10, 1855, and joined the Methodist Church at Natchez on October 26, 1887, under the leadership of Nolan B. Harmon, pastor of Wesley Chapel. Soon he felt a distinct call to preach and was licensed to preach by the quarterly conference in January 1888, his license being signed by W. L. C. Hunnicutt, presiding elder. He married Mrs. Mary W. Hobbs, who proved to be a great help to him in his brief career.

His first appointment was to Covington circuit, after his admission on trial in December 1888. In the beginning of his second year it was discovered by his presiding elder, I. W. Cooper, that his health was failing, and he was therefore exchanged with H. C. Brown and sent first to Bay St. Louis, then to China Grove, and finally to Scranton, where he died, in the little village of Pascagoula on the beach, August 26, 1892.

Millsaps College Opens

The continuous movement to open the new college was of absorbing interest throughout the Conference. The site had been secured, the endowment was growing rapidly, and the buildings were in process of construction. Captain W. H. Tribbett of Terry, after giving $1,500 to the college, made a contribution of $2,500 to endow a scholarship.

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on April 27, and Dr. W. B. Murrah, vice-president of Whitworth College, was elected the first president. N. A. Pattillo was elected to the chair of mathematics and W. L. Weber to the chair of English. The Board met again on Wednesday, July 13, and elected George C. Swearingen to the chair of ancient languages and Marvin M. Black as principal of the preparatory department. Both were graduates of Emory College in the class of 1888 with a Master of Arts degree.

Millsaps College opened its first session with more than a hundred students on Thursday, September 29, 1892, at 11 o'clock. Devotions were conducted by C. G. Andrews, vice-president of the Board of Trustees, and brief addresses were delivered by Colonel C. E. Hooker, an eloquent Congressman from Mississippi, and by Mayor W. M. Henry, who welcomed the college and students to Jackson. The president delivered "what has been universally proclaimed as one of the finest discourses ever spoken from a rostrum in the Capital City." He was followed by Major Millsaps in a practical address. Henry A. Gatlin, now an honored superannuate of the Mississippi Conference, claims the distinction of being the first student to register. By November the college had 131 students, 20 of them being ministerial students.

Centenary College

Centenary College had an excellent record for work during the past 51 years. It was originally established at Brandon Springs in Rankin county in 1841 with Dr. Thomas C. Thornton as the first president. It was subsequently moved to Jackson, Louisiana, and finally to Shreveport, where it is a flourishing institution, now the property of the Louisiana Conference. Bishop Keener was president of the Board of Trustees for many years.

Miscellaneous Notes

In June Henry W. Van Hook graduated from the Biblical Department of Vanderbilt University and Marvin M. Black received the degree of Master of Arts.

East End church, Meridian, had a change of pastors in midsummer. H. C. Brown was relieved on account of ill health and

N. M. Clark was transferred from Lauderdale to take his place. T. E. Winecoff was made junior preacher on the *Linwood* circuit. He was a professor in Cooper Normal College, Daleville, of which Benjamin M. Drake was president. Both were members of the Mississippi Conference.

Bishop Charles B. Galloway wrote an interesting series of letters on his trip to the British Isles. The address of the Bishop before the Wesleyan Conference at Bradford was published in full in the *Advocate* of August 18.

W. H. LaPrade, pastor in New Orleans, wrote the Sunday School lessons for the *Advocate.*

Henry G. Hawkins wrote to the editor and the young people of the Conference from Vancouver, B. C., on June 24, 1892. He was on his way to Japan to teach in company with Bishop Key and Yochioka, a Japanese Methodist preacher. He continued to write periodically while he remained in Japan.

The *Indian Mission* among the Choctaws was beginning with good prospects under the ministry of W. W. Cammack. Two churches had been started, one in Winston county and the other in Kemper county.

Biographical sketches of the presiding elders of the Mississippi Conference appeared in the *Advocate* of December 15, 1892. Charles G. Andrews, Pinckney A. Johnston, Robert S. Woodward, Edwin H. Mounger, Thomas L. Mellen, Claiborne McDonald, John A. Ellis, and Duncan A. Little were worthy and honored men.

Camp Meetings

Lake camp meeting was held August 26-30. Isaac L. Peebles and Levi S. Jones assisted in the preaching.

Shiloh camp meeting began on October 7 and resulted in 12 accessions. Fourteen children were baptized. A number of preachers were present from the Brandon District and two from outside the district, A. B. Nicholson and A. D. Miller. The Shiloh church was organized in 1828; the first building was constructed of logs in September 1831, and the campground was established in 1832. During the 1892 camp meeting the quarterly conference recommended J. H. Foreman to the Annual Conference for admission on trial.

Leaf River camp meeting near Moselle, G. R. Ellis pastor, began on Saturday. Joe Jones preached through Monday and R. B. Downer, R. A. Breland, and the pastor until the close of the meeting. There were many penitents, 30 conversions, and eight accessions to the church.

Salem camp meeting on the Americus circuit October 10. John A. Ellis, P. E., L. P. Meador, N. B. Young, J. C. Long, L. R. Roberts, Ervin Roberts, and J. H. Havens assisted the pastor, J. H. Holland, in the meeting. There were 18 conversions and eight accessions to the church.

Sunday School Institutes

The presiding elder of the Meridian district announced two Sunday School conventions. L. P. Brown would preside over the one at Waynesboro, Angust 23-24, and R. A. Breland over the one at Scooba, August 25-26.

Reports from the Preachers

George H. Thompson, pastor of the *Rose Hill* charge, was surprised and pleased in the early part of the year at the steady steps of the coming hosts, when the pantry was filled with many expressions of kindness.

Ira F. Hawkins, junior preacher on the *Anguilla* charge, was assured in a reasonable way that the collections would be in full. His meeting at Bethel added six to the church.

Isaac L. Peebles was well pleased with *Edwards*. On April 10, E. H. Mounger, P. E., held the first quarterly conference and preached three good sermons; one half of an assessment of $242 had been paid.

N. J. Roberts in his third year on the *Utica* charge had received

28 members, baptized 75 infants, licensed two young men to preach, organized and built a new church at *Learned*. He was assisted in a revival at Utica by Joe Jones, in which there were some 25 persons received into the various churches, 19 of them into the Methodist church.

H. M. Ellis had received 45 members by April at *Wesley Chapel*, Natchez. Three fourths of the foreign missionary assessment had been paid, the old parsonage had been sold, and a building committee appointed for a new parsonage.

Lazarus J. Jones reported a good reception on the *Pleasant Grove* circuit with a parsonage soon to be completed.

Josiah M. Pugh at *Binnsville* reported a meeting held prior to the close of Fairview College with 61 conversions and 45 accessions to the various churches. He was assisted in a meeting for 16 days by N. M. Clark.

J. S. Parker at *Hattiesburg* reported that Joe Jones had preached three times a day for ten days at a tabernacle erected for the purpose, the seating capacity of which was 2,000. There were 45 accessions to the church.

M. L. Burton reported 40 members received to date at *McComb City*.

J. C. Long, supply in his fourth year on the *Neshoba* circuit, reported in August three meetings held, with 18 accessions. Preachers in the meeting were W. W. Cammack and J. R. Hays, the latter a supply on the Carthage circuit.

W. W. Simmons reported 22 accessions in meetings at *Centerville* and *Gloster*, where he was assisted by I. L. Peebles, J. J. Smylie, G. D. Anders, R. W. Tucker, and W. J. Roberts.

M. L. White on the *Mount Carmel* circuit reported 16 accessions in a meeting at *Blountville*, where he was assisted by Green W. Brown, J. H. Evans, and M. H. Moore.

J. P. Drake on the *Shubuta* charge was assisted at *DeSoto* by J. W. Harmon, a superannuate.

J. W. Ellison reported an eight-day meeting at *Mount Olivet,* where he was assisted by G. W. Alexander and H. L. Scarborough, local preachers; another meeting at Satartia with one accession; and a third meeting at Anding. At the latter place a new church was nearing completion.

A. D. Miller of the *Bowerton* circuit reported a good meeting at *Rehobeth* church, where he was assisted by Isaac L. Peebles and Matthew J. Miller. There were 17 accessions.

William J. Dawson reported a good meeting at *Linwood* with 18 accessions.

H. L. Norton at *Madison* testified that during the revival season spiritual conditions had been revived and 11 received into the church.

M. L. White was assisted in a meeting at *Mount Moriah,* the present Silver Creek, by T. S. West and L. J. Jones, in which there were seven accessions and several conversions. There had been 40 accessions on the whole charge and church property was greatly improved.

L. J. Jones was assisted by Green W. Brown, a local preacher, in a meeting at Pleasant Grove, which resulted in 16 accessions to the church.

W. G. Backus reported 19 accessions in four meetings on the *Heidelberg* charge. The meeting at *Heidelberg* was the best known for years. Kenneth A. Jones of the North Mississippi Conference did all the preaching, which was good to the use of edifying. At the other churches B. S. Rayner, N. B. Harmon, and a blind preacher named Zachary did the preaching.

H. D. Howell reported a meeting at *Lumberton* on the *Purvis* circuit with 31 professions and 10 accessions to the church.

R. B. Downer of the *Ellisville* charge was assisted in a meeting at *Laurel* by J. W. Harmon and at *Sandersville* by George H. Thompson and B. H. Rawls.

Gabriel R. Ellis reported a good meeting at *Eastabutchie* in which there were nine accessions. The quarterly conference was held by J. S. Parker in the absence of the presiding elder and H. B. Gilmore of Eastabutchie was licensed to preach.

J. T. Abney on the *Porterville* circuit was assisted in revivals by R. A. Breland, B. H. Rawls, G. W. Huff, and W. J. Dawson; the churches were revived and 33 new members were added to the churches on the charge.

George W. Huff had received nearly 100 members on the *North Wilkinson* circuit in a year and a half.

Barney W. Lewis on the *Lebanon* circuit was assisted at the home church by George A. Guice with nine accessions; at Mizpeh by his father, H. P. Lewis, with five accessions; and at Blue Hill by W. H. Lewis with seven accessions.

J. Perry Drake of the *Shubuta* charge was assisted in a good meeting at *Quitman* by T. L. Mellen and Jules V. Penn with five accessions.

W. B. Hines reported three meetings held on the Lake circuit. He was assisted at *Hillsboro* by J. C. Ellis and at *Lake* and *Carr's* by D. C. Rawls. A total of 27 new members had been received and 20 children baptized.

John W. Chambers was assisted in a meeting at *Enterprise* by N. M. Clark and T. L. Mellen. Twenty-six members were received into the Methodist church and 14 into other churches.

George H. Galloway was assisted in a gracious meeting at *Carthage* by two supply pastors, J. R. Hays on the *Carthage* circuit and Irvin Miller on the *Walnut Grove* circuit. There were 25 conversions and 16 accessions.

Eucutta Church

This church was organized in 1892 with eight charter members. The following year the first building was erected, valued at $1,000, and the first Sunday School was organized in the new building. W. W. Moore, the first pastor, lived at Vossburg. The first parsonage at Eucutta was secured in 1905 during the pastorate of J. L. Red.

Red Hill Church

The present church building at *Red Hill* on the Vancleave charge was constructed in 1892. The church was organized in 1837 and the first building was used for school and church purposes. It was a log building and stood on the exact spot of the present building. The location of the church is on the west side of the Pascagoula River, about one mile north of the ancient courthouse site, known then as Brewer's Bluff, then Rice's Bluff, and later the village of Brewton.

Pioneer settlers in the community, including John Havens, a Virginian, and Henry Fletcher, a South Carolinian and a local preacher, and their families, made up the membership.

A second building was erected some time before the Civil War, some fifty yards in front of the present building. It was also built of logs and housed the local school as well as the regular services of the church. The first sermon in the present building was preached by Jefferson H. Havens, a local preacher and a grandson of both John Havens and Henry Fletcher. J. H. Havens was at an earlier period a member of Red Hill church but had moved his membership to New Prospect church before being licensed to preach.

Six local preachers have held membership in Red Hill church: Henry Fletcher, Bryant Rice, Burniss Gray, Cyril E. Cain (now a teacher in Mississippi State College), Murdock W. David, at one time a member of the Mississippi Conference, and J. B. Cain, author of "Methodism in the Mississippi Conference, 1846-70."

Other families in the membership of Red Hill church through the years have carried the names of DuBose, Rice, Tootle, Graham, Entrekin, David, Holland, Roberts, and Carlisle.

Mrs. Elizabeth Goff Fletcher, one of the charter members, held membership in Red Hill for 40 years, and her granddaughter, Mrs. Nettie Fletcher Cain, for 70 years.

CHAPTER XXIV

1893

Conference at Natchez

The Annual Conference met at Jefferson Street Church, Natchez, December 14-19, 1892, presided over by Bishop John C. Granberry, who called the body to order at 9:00 o'clock, A.M., announced hymn 732, read the first chapter of The Acts of the Apostles, and led in prayer. Also hymn 354 was sung, and prayer was offered by R. S. Woodward. This was Bishop Granberry's first and only time to preside over the Conference, although he was elected ten years before, and he lived and was active ten years afterwards.

There were more than 100 ministers present during the Conference and 14 lay delegates, including H. J. Harris, now a local preacher. There was no change in the secretaries, except J. G. Galloway, W. L. Linfield, and G. H. Galloway were added as assistants. The Conference sat from 9:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. daily.

Admissions

A large class of 16 were *admitted on trial:* Henry W. Van Hook, Clarence M. Crossley, Thomas H. King, Robert Emmett Rutledge, Talbert A. Luster, Albert C. Burt, John Henry Foreman, Paul Douglas Hardin, William Matthews Williams, Simpson Jefferson Tubby, Waldo Worley Moore, Adolphus Taylor Bell, Fletcher Bryant Ormond, George Washington Huff, William Job Roberts, and Samuel Hodges. The last two were from the Florida parishes of Louisiana, which were still a part of the Mississippi Conference. Two of these ministers are still living and remain members of the Mississippi Conference: William Matthews Williams and F. B. Ormond.

The following were admitted into *full connection*: Geo. H. Thompson, Geo. A. Guice, Jno. W. Crisler, Henry W. Wallace, James T. Leggett, Kirby Smith Enochs, Wiley J. Ferguson and Jno. W. Tinnin.

Four were *received by transfer:* R. W. Bailey, Los Angeles Conference; H. E. Partridge, Florida Conference; H. R. Singleton, Pacific Conference; and C. F. Evans, Louisiana Conference. Three were readmitted: William W. Hopper, James N. Tucker, Henry J. Harris.

Demissions

Ira F. Hawkins, J. C. Campbell, T. E. Winecoff were *discontinued* at their own request; E. L. Rawls was also discontinued.

B. M. Drake was *located* at his own request.

Two were *transferred* to other Conferences: W. C. Black to the South Georgia Conference; J. H. Woodward to the White River Conference.

Ordinations

G. A. Guice, J. W. Crisler, H. W. Wallace, K. S. Enochs, traveling preachers, were *ordained deacons.*

H. W. Van Hook, D. C. Rawls, R. E. Rutledge, G. W. Huff, W. T. Griffin, W. H. Griffin, W. H. Carroll, T. H. King, J. B. Anders, Milton Ferrell, and W. T. Woodward were ordained *local deacons.*

Traveling preachers who were ordained *elders* were: W. P. Jones, J. G. Galloway, G. W. Ferrer, R. W. Tucker, and J. M. Cowan.

Four preachers have died during the year: E. R. Strickland, J. W. Lambuth, Levi Pearce, and L. W. Wood.

Presiding Elders' Districts

The number of Districts remained the same as for some years, and their Presiding Elders are as follows:

Brandon District, C. McDonald
Brookhaven District, R. S. Woodward

Jackson District, E. H. Mounger
Meridian District, T. L. Mellen
Seashore District, H. E. Partridge
Woodville District, P. A. Johnston
Vicksburg District, D. A. Little

T. L. Mellen gave periodically a complete account of each charge in the District. He was always for forward movement, both materially and spiritually, and proved himself a workman that needeth not be ashamed. His philosophy of life and his efforts were to make up for his lost time in entering the ministry late in life.

District Stewards Meeting

P. A. Johnston, P. E., of the Woodville District, made much of the District Stewards meeting. They met on Friday, January 20; R. W. Tucker preached on Thursday night before; H. R. Singleton at 11 A.M. on Friday, followed by the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper; and R. W. Bailey, recently come to this Conference, preached at night. Clinton, Louisiana, was the place of the meeting.

L. Q. C. Lamar

Hon. L. Q. C. Lamar, Justice of the Supreme Court, U. S. A., died at Macon, Georgia, on Monday, January 23, 1893. He was a great Methodist layman, born in 1825, graduated at Emory College at the age of twenty. He was a lawyer, professor in a State University, member of Congress, officer in the Confederate Army, United States Senator, member of President Cleveland's Cabinet, and of the Supreme Court. He was buried from Mulberry Street Church, Macon, by Dr. W. C. Black, formerly a member of the Mississippi Conference, Dr. W. A. Candler, and Bishop Fitzgerald.

Notes of Interest

It was reported in January that I. W. Cooper had been ill for 15 days. John D. Ellis, a young preacher, read in his library and helped in his work. Dr. Cooper was assigned to *Canton* at the last Conference, but on account of his health, L. S. Jones who was appointed to *Hazlehurst* went to Canton by agreement of the presiding elders and the Bishop, and Dr. Cooper remained at Hazlehurst.

Bishop Galloway dedicated the new church at *Lauderdale* on February 19, erected under the leadership of Rev. N. M. Clark.

T. W. Adams was appointed pastor at *Moss Point* to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John A. Ellis.

A. F. Watkins was writing the Sunday School lesson for the *Advocate* for the present year.

J. D. Ellis was appointed in April to fill the vacancy made by the removal of R. E. Rutledge from *Roxie* charge to *Washington* charge, Vicksburg District.

The programs of the Meridian District Sunday School Conventions at DeKalb and Quitman were given in full in the *Advocate* over the signature of T. L. Mellen.

Missionary

In the early part of the year Dr. W. R. Lambuth made an urgent appeal for reinforcements for China and Japan; new recruits must go out on specials till the debt was paid, but money had been offered by four persons to support missionaries. A Mississippian offered to send a man and his wife to supply the place left vacant by the death of J. W. Lambuth, and volunteers were needed. T. L. Mellen was vigorously pushing the collections for the missionary debt, and was meeting with responses from various churches. The sum raised by July, 1893, on the debt was $2,218.35, leaving a balance of $1,431.65.

H. G. Hawkins, missionary to Japan—to teach English—continued to write to the *Advocate* interesting letters, descriptive of the country and its customs, as well as the work of the church.

John Alexander Ellis

John A. Ellis was born near Murfreesboro, Tennessee, April 27, 1830, and after a life of distinguished service and usefulness, died at Moss Point on February 16, 1893. In his early age he was employed by his brother in the mercantile business in Huntsville, Alabama, and gave some years to this successfully. He was converted and joined the church at Huntsville, at the age of 14. Soon he felt the call to preach and unhesitatingly gave up all earthly ambitions, and was soon licensed to exhort, in May, 1849. In October of the same year he was granted license to preach, and was recommended to the Annual Conference for admission. Soon he was transferred to the Nashville City Mission, from his country circuit work, and there he was the leader in establishing several of the leading churches. He served as an army chaplain well and faithfully. In 1863 he was married to Mrs. S. H. Hamilton, near Brandon, Mississippi; to this union were born Hicks M. Ellis who served long in the Mississippi Conference, and Mrs. S. J. Harrison who lived in Nashville.

He was transferred to the Mississippi Conference in 1865, and here he spent the remainder of his useful life, honored and loved by all. After his wife's death, he was married again, to Miss M. E. Ellis, of Amite City, La., a daughter of the late Judge Ellis; it was a most happy union. He was buried at Amite City.

T. Y. Armstrong

Thomas Young Armstrong was the oldest son of Andrew and Sarah Armstrong, born in Bullock county, Georgia, August 21, 1812, and died on the morning of March 7, 1893. Converted at a meeting near Allinton, Alabama, in 1835, he soon felt the call to preach, but for a time hesitated. However, in May, 1841, he was licensed to preach by the Quarterly Conference of the Cedar Creek circuit of the Alabama Conference. That Conference the same year received him on trial, and during 1842 he served the Kemper circuit, and in 1843 was on the Lauderdale circuit, both in Mississippi. During this year he was married to Miss Amanda S. Simmons, of Sumpter county, Alabama, who was a great help to him for nearly 50 years. To them were born nine children.

He was ordained deacon by Bishop James O. Andrew at Wetumpka in 1845, and elder by Bishop Paine at Montgomery in 1847. He located at the Conference of 1857 at his own request, but was re-admitted into the Mississippi Conference in 1870, and served various circuits till December, 1882, when he asked for the superannuate relation. He served the slaves as a missionary for three years.

H. M. Booth

Horace M. Booth, formerly a member of the Mississippi Conference, born in Claiborne county, October 23, 1815, died at his home in Rockport, Texas, on March 6, 1893, aged 77.

Benjamin Jones

Benjamin Jones was born in Campbell county, Virginia, on December 15, 1809, and died in Long Beach, Mississippi, on June 20, 1893. His father, whose name was John, and his mother, whose name was Magdelene, were both members of the Methodist Church. The family moved to Kentucky in his seventh year, and in his twenty-first year he located in Natchez, in business as a builder.

In 1835 he was received into the Mississippi Conference in the class with Elijah Steele and William H. Watkins, and was assigned to Alexandria, Louisiana, as all of that state was then in the Mississippi Conference; but the General Conference of the following year placed nearly all of Louisiana in the Arkansas Conference, and he was in that Conference till the General Conference of 1840. He was ordained deacon at Little Rock in 1837, and elder at Fayetteville in 1839. He was appointed to Woodville Station in 1840, to Wilkinson circuit in 1841, and the next two years he was appointed to Centenary College and Brandon, where he was very popular. He was a member of the General Conference of 1844, as an alternate, and during the Conference he was married to Miss Rachel A. W. Bangs, daughter of Heman Bangs, a pastor in New York.

Upon the removal of Centenary College to Jackson, Louisiana, he left his pastorate of two years at Natchez, and was appointed agent of the College. In 1847 he established in Jackson, La., the Feliciana Female Seminary, at which some of the leading women of Mississippi and Louisiana graduated.

In 1856 he took charge of the Port Gibson Collegiate Academy, serving the churches there in the surrounding territory; and in 1869 he again assumed the duties of the same school. In February 1869 he married Mrs. M. A. Redding and lived happily with her till her death in 1880 at Raymond. He married Mrs. Rebecca Wiley of Woodville in 1881. He continued to serve faithfully till superannuation at his own request in 1891. He died in peace at mid-day on June 20, 1893, and was buried at Woodville.

Some Revivals and Reports During April and May

L. S. Jones, *Canton:* work progresses, 37 accessions since Conference; finances well up.

C. M. Crossley, *Brookhaven circuit:* first year in itinerancy, had a large field.

M. L. Burton, *McComb* City: prosperous year; 32 accessions to date; congregations good; finances well up.

B. S. Rayner, *Forest, Morton,* and *Pelahatchie:* in good shape; parsonage at Morton; 17 accessions to date; secured all the Conference Collections, except $20.

F. B. Ormond, *Why Not circuit:* his first charge; cyclone swept away the town of *Toomsuba;* meeting held there, one accession; new church building in prospect; has traveled 700 miles, preached 33 sermons, and made 150 pastoral visits; at work on Course of Study.

W. T. Griffin, *Terry:* a new church, almost completed.

W. M. Sullivan, *Franklinton:* a good meeting, assisted by W. W. Simmons; 11 accessions, a number of conversions; 24 accessions to date.

District Conferences

The *Woodville* District Conference convened at Centerville on April 27, with P. A. Johnston, P. E., in the chair, J. H. Smylie, secretary, and W. J. Roberts assistant. Preaching was done by J. P. Haney, P. A. Johnston, J. W. Brown, J. G. Galloway, R. W. Tucker, W. D. Dominick, W. L. Linfield, W. L. C. Hunnicutt, W. J. Roberts, W. M. Sullivan, and H. W. Featherstun. Visitors present were D. L. Mitchell, J. W. McLaurin, and W. D. Dominick. Lay delegates elected to the Annual Conference were H. C. Newsom, R. Babington, H. B. McGehee, and G. H. Packwood.

The *Seashore* District Conference was held at Pearlington, May 16-22, with H. E. Partridge, P. E., in the chair and T. W. Adams as secretary. The visiting preachers present were J. W. Chambers, Agent of Millsaps College, and W. D. Dominick, colporteur. Lay delegates elected to the Annual Conference were S. J. Johnson, S. S. Cope, Jno. A. McLeod, and Dr. W. F. Ferrill; alternates, Lieut-Governor M. M. Evans, Henry Ware, J. A. Vanderwall, and Hon. T. S. Ford. Trustees elected for the Seashore Campground were J. L. Dantzler, Dr. E. F. Griffin, W. A. White, and J. P. Carter. Preaching was done by J. W. Chambers, H. W. Wallace, W. D. Dominick, J. M. Pugh, T. W. Adams, H. E. Partridge, H. G. Trevilion, and N. B. Young.

The *Vicksburg* District Conference met at Hermanville on June 22 with D. A. Little, P. E., in the chair. Each session was opened with an experience meeting or prayer service lasting fifteen minutes. Visiting preachers were J. W. Chambers, Agent for Millsaps College; P. A. Johnston, presiding elder of the Woodville District; J. W. McLaurin, Agent, American Bible Society; and W. D. Dominick, colporteur. Harriston was selected for the next place of meeting. Lay delegates elected to the Annual Conference were W. A. Gunning, T. A. Holloman, C. W. Campbell, and T. W. Sullivan.

The *Jackson* District Conference was announced by E. H. Mounger, P. E., to be held at Edwards, July 27-30. The Sunday

School interests were considered on the first day, followed by a sermon by L. S. Jones at night.

The *Brookhaven* District Conference met at Terry on June 29. The presiding elder, B. S. Woodward, being sick, J. M. Weems presided. The preaching was done by M. L. Burton, W. W. Hurst, M. J. Miller, and T. B. Holloman.

During the *Meridian* District Conference a Parsonage and Home Mission Committee was organized with the following officers:

President, Mrs. I. N. Chatfield, Meridian
Vice-President, Mrs. E. P. Mellen, Meridian
Second Vice-President, Mrs. M. E. Brogan, Vossburg
Treasurer, Mrs. T. B. Holloman, Wesson
Recording Secretary, Mrs. Mary F. Lewis, Meridian
Conference Secretary, Mrs. Clara H. Cope, Paulding

District Secretaries

Meridian District, Mrs. R. Kennedy, Meridian
Seashore District, Mrs. S. J. Johnson, Ellisville
Vicksburg District, Mrs. B. F. Jones, Port Gibson
Woodville District, Mrs. P. A. Johnston, Woodville
Jackson, Brandon, and Brookhaven Districts, to be named later

Committee on Orphan's Home

The Committee appointed at the last session of the Conference, consisting of W. A. Gunning, Peter James, M. L. Burton, H. M. Ellis, and A. F. Watkins, to consider the advisability of establishing an Orphan's Home, met in Jackson on March 1, with W. A. Gunning, chairman, A. F. Watkins, secretary, M. L. Burton, treasurer, and authorized the secretary to correspond with interested parties, and to invite suggestions, bids, or proposals.

Millsaps College

Dr. I. W. Cooper was appointed Agent of Millsaps College in December with a view of raising $25,000 for the endowment fund, to be duplicated by R. W. Millsaps.

Major R. W. Millsaps paid his second $25,000 to the endowment fund, which had practically reached the goal of $100,000, early in January 1893. A call was made, however, by J. W. Chambers, Agent, for $5,500 to complete this amount, and he continued to receive payments on the pastors' subscriptions.

At the beginning of the second term President Murrah announced there were 148 pupils. Enrollment increased to 150 in April. Thirteen young men were preparing for the ministry. The editor of the *Advocate*, C. W. Carter, expressed high appreciation of the inaugural address delivered by Dr. W. B. Murrah on the opening day of the College.

At commencement A. M. Muckenfuss was elected to the chair of natural science. Peter James was elected a trustee in place of Dr. Luther Sexton, who had moved from the state.

Mrs. Annie Davis Smith, of Canton, gave $2,500 to endow a scholarship to Millsaps College in honor of her uncle, Hon. Jefferson Davis, to be called "The Jefferson Davis Scholarship." She retained the privilege of naming the beneficiary during her lifetime, and stipulated that her son, Jefferson Davis Smith, should have the benefit of the scholarship until his education was finished in College; and, afterwards, these conditions being fulfilled, it would be under the control of the Board of Trustees.

The second session of the College opened on September 20, 1893.

New Orleans Christian Advocate

The New Orleans Advocate came into perilous financial troubles; the publisher failed in business and the editor resigned. A new editor and publisher was elected in the person of J. M. Beard, D.D.

Commencements

The commencement exercises of the E. M. F. College, Meridian, began on June 4, with a sermon by H. E. Partridge, P. E., of the

Seashore District. The address to the graduation class was delivered on Thursday by Dr. Chas. F. Evans. The diplomas were delivered by the president, C. W. Anderson, with the degree of M.E.L. granted to Bessie W. Barber and Ida D. Curtis, and a diploma in mathematics to Grace Hyer. The president resigned after a period of three years, to preside over educational interests at Shubuta. T. B. Holloman was elected to succeed him.

The announcement was made in February for Millsaps College that the sermon would be preached on June 11 by Dr. S. A. Steel, of Nashville, and that Dr. J. D. Cameron would preach that night. Bishop Galloway would deliver the dedicatory address on Tuesday, June 13, following which Dr. E. E. Hoss would deliver an address, and a dedicatory poem would be read by W. R. Sims, Ph.D.

The sermon at Whitworth College was announced to be preached on June 4, by Dr. C. F. Evans of Meridian; the address before the Epworth League would be by J. W. Chambers that night; and the annual address would be delivered by E. W. Carmack, editor of the Memphis *Commercial*, on June 6.

At the Edward McGehee College H. R. Singleton preached the commencement sermon; H. W. Featherstun delivered the baccalaureate address, and C. G. Andrews the literary address. The graduates were Emmie May Featherstun, B.A., Olive A. Feiley, Ph.B., and Josie Peets, M.A.

The sermons at Port Gibson Female College were preached by W. B. Lewis, and D. A. Little. On June 13 the address was delivered by Hon. Richard Reed of Natchez. There were two graduates; Miss Abraham, a Jewess, and Miss Lollie Little.

Miscellaneous Notes

W. R. Lambuth, Nashville, was corresponding secretary pro tem of the General Board of Missions.

Ransom J. Jones, son of Rev. K. A. Jones, of the North Mississippi Conference, was licensed to preach by authority of the

Quarterly Conference, of the Eucutta charge at Spring Hill church, July 8, 1893, the license being signed by T. L. Mellen, presiding elder. He remained a local preacher for a period and attended Millsaps College, but never united with the Annual Conference. The writer has a son by this name also. He is now an eminent physician in North Carolina.

A Biblical Institute was held at the Seashore Campground, and among those who had place on the program were C. W. Carter, D.D., J. W. Pearce, Ph.D., Bishop Galloway, and Dr. J. B. Walker.

New church buildings were under way in mid-summer by W. J. Dawson of Leakesville; R. Bradley of Vossburg; D. P. Bradford of Shubuta; J. V. Penn of Waynesboro and State Line, and W. W. Moore of Eucutta. J. V. Penn had erected a handsome parsonage.

The new church on *Linwood circuit,* at *Hopewell,* was reported by H. W. Van Hook in September as being almost complete.

Edward McGehee College opened better than ever before; 64 had matriculated in early October; 22 boarders, 17 of them boarding at the college.

In November H. J. Harris renewed his series of reminiscences in the *Advocate;* writing of his work on the Bayou Pierre circuit in 1848-1949.

Mrs. Rebecca Decell

Mrs. Rebecca Decell, daughter of John and Grace Wheat, Copiah county, died July 8, 1893; she became religious in early life and hers was a joyous Christian life. A member of the Pleasant Valley church, she joined in the revivals and prayer meetings, and was an important part of that spiritual church, from which 11 preachers went into the Methodist ministry. She married James D. Decell, who was removed by death in the prime of life, a devout and godly husband; she was left with a large number of small children whom she reared to be honorable and useful men and women. She died at the home of her son, John S. Decell.

Mrs. M. L. Brogan, widow of Rev. John C. Brogan, died at Vossburg on September 23, 1893, aged 56. The daughter of Rev. John H. Davis, she was born in Fayette county, Alabama, on November 2, 1837, and married on May 17, 1854.

Camp Meetings

The Sam Jones camp meeting near Gloster was held August 18-28, and was unusually well attended.

The Lake camp meeting began on Friday night, August 25, and closed on Wednesday night following; there were 21 additions and 81 conversions. The attendance was large; the preaching was done by J. W. Chambers, Lyman Carley, J. M. Morse, and W. M. Williams. The pastor was R. F. Witt.

The twenty-second annual camp meeting at Crystal Springs was held August 24-31. It was one of the best ever held, with 18 accessions and 20 conversions. The principal part of the preaching was done by Dr. H. C. Morrison, editor of *The Kentucky Methodist;* sermons were delivered also by W. B. Lewis, Dr. W. B. Murrah, J. M. Weems, P. A. Johnston, W. D. Dominick, W. T. Griffin, and W. W. Morse.

The Palmer creek camp meeting was announced to begin on September 30. G. W. Ferrer was preacher in charge.

The Salem camp meeting was scheduled to begin October 5.

The Shiloh camp meeting was held October 5-11; the attendance was good and all tents were occupied; 20 were added to the church, and eight children were baptized. The preachers present were J. M. Weems, J. W. Chambers, B. S. Rayner, R. A. Sibley, R. S. Gale, H. B. Vandenburg, L. Carley, P. D. Hardin, and four local preachers. The pastor was J. G. Sibley.

The New Prospect camp meeting was announced by N. B. Young, pastor, to begin October 20.

The editor of the *Advocate* mentioned the beauty of the Seashore Campground, the improved attendance and the good prospects of the camp meeting as it appeared to him on the Sunday night that he was there. Among the preachers at the time were Bishop Keener, J. C. Morris of Birmingham, Dr. Shoaff of Mobile, and Dr. Carey of Atlanta. At least 400 persons were on the ground and more than 200 assembled to hear the opening sermon by H. E. Partridge, P. E., from Psalm 25:14.

Notes of Interest

Samuel P. Jones, grandfather of Sam P. Jones and Joe J. Jones, lived to a ripe old age. In 1893 he was still living in the family town of Cartersville, Georgia, aged 88.

Bishop Joseph S. Key requested the presiding elders to meet him at Hazlehurst, the seat of the Conference, on December 6.

J. S. Parker, *Purvis circuit:* a meeting at *Poplarville* for 12 days, assisted by I. L. Peebles the first week, and continued by the pastor; 25 accessions. Mrs. E. Lou Whyte of Purvis, evidently a teacher at that time, was present and was a helpful worker, as she continued to be till the end of her life.

East End Methodist Church, Meridian: dedicated by T. L. Mellen on Sunday, May 28, B. F. Lewis was pastor of this promising church.

P. D. Hardin, *Clarksburg circuit:* a great Children's Day service was held at New Providence Sunday School; the congregation was estimated at 400. Mrs. Luch Mitcham had much to do with the preparation for the occasion. There were five Sunday Schools and two prayer meetings; no meetings had been held, but there had been 15 additions to the church.

The Seashore District Conference at *Pearlington* was followed by a revival. R. B. Downer, pastor, was assisted by N. B. Harmon who remained till the following Friday, and F. M. Keen, a visitor, assisted in song and sermon; there were eight additions to the church. The sermon by the presiding elder on Sunday called for the organization of a Woman's Missionary Society.

J. T. Abney, Sunflower charge, gave a report of his success and his obstacles; a church was blown down, but he was able to worship in it again; no meetings held, but two members received.

Meetings During July-September

Eastabuchie circuit, W. G. Backus: meeting at Morristown, assisted by M. L. White, and A. C. Burt; at *Bay Springs,* assisted by B. H. Rawls, with 13 accessions; at *Soule Chapel,* assisted by J. C. Long, eight accessions.

Leakesville circuit, W. J. Dawson: meeting at *Adamsville,* assisted by J. L. Gree, of the Alabama Conference, and the presiding elder; seven accessions.

Waynesboro circuit, A. T. Bell: meeting at *Bucfatunna,* assisted by W. J. Ferguson; 20 conversions.

Mt. Carmel circuit, M. L. White: meeting at *Bethel,* assisted by W. G. Backus and R. H. Barr, with 10 accessions; at *Blountville,* assisted by M. H. Moore and H. C. Brown, seven accessions; at *Mt. Carmel,* assisted by J. H. Evans and L. J. Jones, 20 accessions and 14 children baptized; at *Santee,* assisted by H. D. Howell, 15 accessions and 30 conversions, totaling 60 on the circuit to date.

Learned circuit, J. N. Tucker: meeting at Reaves Chapel, assisted by J. P. Drake, 15 accessions, and 12 adults baptized.

Lockhart, George Bancroft: assisted by W. W. Hopper, five accessions and a dozen conversions.

Shubuta and Quitman, D. P. Bradford: 25 accessions since January.

Oak Ridge, A. D. Miller: revival at *Bradley's Chapel,* assisted by T. J. Miller, 28 accessions.

Williamsburg circuit, J. H. Evans: meeting at *Bethel,* by G. W. Brown and E. J. Taylor, who preached one time, a feast to all; at *Williamsburg,* assisted by G. W. Brown and M. L. White, 20 accessions.

East Feliciana circuit, Louisiana, G. D. Anders: assisted at *Olive Branch* by W. L. Linfield, Dr. J. R. Whittington, and R. W. Tucker; 15 accessions.

Lauderdale circuit, W. T. Browning, supply: meeting at Mt. Hebron and Burton Chapel, assisted by Messrs. Burton and Huff, local preachers of Alabama; 20 accessions and 40 conversions.

Vossburg circuit, R. Bradley pastor: meeting at McGowan's Chapel, assisted by presiding elder T. L. Mellen; several conversions.

Clarke circuit, J. N. Ware: meeting at New Home church, conducted by J. N. Broadway, A. Trotter, and R. C. Gavin, local preachers; six accessions, eight conversions.

DeKalb circuit, R. A. Breland: meeting at *Pleasant Ridge,* assisted by W. W. Hopper, seven accessions.

Linwood circuit, H. W. Van Hook: meeting at *Bethel* church, assisted by W. J. Ferguson; 12 accessions.

Pleasant Grove, L. J. Jones: meeting at *Pleasant Grove,* assisted by P. H. Howse, 32 accessions; many conversions, the church revived; at *Tilton,* assisted by M. L. White, 42 accessions and 50 conversions.

Why Not circuit, F. B. Ormford: meeting, assisted by R. W. Harmon, local preacher, who delivered one sermon, and by L. B. Moore, exhorter; 10 accessions.

Lauderdale circuit, W. T. Browning, supply: meeting at Bethel, 19 accessions and 25 conversions.

Chunky circuit, L. P. Meador: meeting at Concord, seven accessions; at Suqualena, two accessions; at *Chunky,* seven accessions.

Bowerton charge, Brookhaven District, W. W. Hurst: meeting at Brandywine, assisted by J. T. Leggett, D. F. Guice, and C. W. Campbell, nine accessions; at Pleasant Valley, assisted by I. W. Cooper and Elisha Mullins; no accessions.

Gallman circuit, W. W. Morse: meeting at *Mount Pleasant,* assisted by J. M. Morse, four accessions; at *Gallman,* also by J. M. Morse, large congregations, two accessions, five at regular appointment; at *Bethesda,* aided by F. M. Williams, J. G. Cammack, and Milton Ferrill, nine accessions; at *Pleasant Ridge,* aided by

W. T. Griffin, a most glorious meeting, two accessions, many saved.

Madison, H. L. Norton: four meetings, assisted by D. C. Rawls, J. M. Weems, T. S. West, W. D. Dominick, G. B. Galloway, W. W. Morse; 38 added to the church; 10 adults and one infant baptized.

Caseyville, H. P. Lewis: meeting at *Sweetwater*, assisted by T. A. Luster of Holmesville, C. M. Crossley, E. T. Breland, and B. W. Lewis; 10 accessions and 30 conversions.

Montrose, B. H. Rawls: assisted by J. G. Sibley; 15 accessions.

Anguilla, W. H. Lewis: meeting August 17-24, assisted by J. W. Chambers, seven accessions.

Sunflower circuit, J. T. Abney: *Sunflower* Chapel, 23 accessions, assisted by W. H. Lewis; at *Sharbrough's*, four accessions, one infant baptized.

North Kemper circuit, W. J. Ferguson: meeting at *Blair*, 24 accessions.

Waynesboro and State Line, J. V. Penn: meeting at Goldwood, 24 accessions; new church built at a cost of $600.

Vossburg circuit, R. Bradley: meeting at *Pachuta*, assisted by J. V. Penn, four accessions; at *Vossburg*, assisted by H. B. Trevilion, three accessions.

Clarke circuit, J. N. Ware: meeting at *Liberty*, assisted by D. P. Bradford, two accessions; at Frost Bridge, assisted by R. C. Gavin, local preacher, two accessions; at Manassa, nine accessions.

Leakesville, W. J. Dawson: a meeting at Mt. Pleasant was assisted by A. T. Bell.

Clarksburg circuit, P. D. Hardin: meeting at *Liberty* assisted by W. T. Griffin and L. Kendall; a great revival, seven accessions; at *Clarksburg*, assisted by B. S. Rayner and W. T. Griffin, 24 accessions; at *Holly Bluff*, assisted by C. McDonald, P. E., W. T. Griffin and H. R. Caldwell, eight accessions and three children baptized; at New Providence, assisted by B. S. Rayner and J. H. King, nine accessions and four children baptized.

Reports and Revivals, October-November

Clarksburg circuit, P. D. Hardin: meeting at Liberty assisted by Rayner and Griffin, 15 accessions and one child baptized; Rev. Mr. Franklin of the Methodist Protestant church also assisted in the meeting.

St. Helena circuit, Louisiana, N. J. Roberts: meeting at *Day's Church,* assisted by T. A. Luter, eight accessions; *Wesley Chapel,* assisted by J. S. Hodges, eight accessions; *Pine Grove,* assisted by J. P. Haney, eight accessions and 50 conversions.

Pearlington, R. B. Downer: assisted by W. H. Carrol, nine accessions; 15 adults baptized and 25 infants.

Chunky circuit, L. P. Meador: six meetings held, assisted by I. L. Peebles, J. T. Nicholson, W. P. Meador, and Rev. Mr. Belew of the Congregational Methodist Church.

Adams circuit, J. W. Tinnin, pastor since June 22: received 26 into the church and baptized 19 children.

Rose Hill, G. H. Thompson: all meetings held, about 100 conversions and 43 accessions.

Binnsville, N. M. Clark: meeting at Binnsville, 13 added to the church, with 25 conversions.

Brookhaven circuit, C. M. Crossley: the meetings have been held, 33 accessions to date, assisted by T. A. Luster, H. P. Lewis, W. B. Lewis, C. D. Cecil, and R. Havers.

Terry circuit, W. T. Griffin: meetings at *Spring Ridge, Forest Hill,* and Byram, 35 accessions, making 57 since July 1; assisted by Drs. Bethea and West, and W. W. Morse.

Long Beach, N. B. Harmon: meeting at Long Beach, assisted by his father, J. W. Harmon, 24 accessions and 20 conversions.

Summit, J. G. Cammack: meeting at *Bogue Chitto,* aided by A. F. Watkins for three days, one accession and several conversions; at Johnston Station, asssted by W. T. Griffin and H. A. Gatlin, a student at Millsaps College, and by Dr. R. C. Bethea; 14 accessions.

Williamsburg, J. H. Evans: four meetings held; at *Bethel,* 12 accessions; *Williamsburg*, 20 accessions; at *Good Hope*, 22 accessions; assisted by Brown and Tylor, M. L. White, and H. E. Partridge, P. E.

Lake City, J. M. Cowan: a delightful meeting with 21 accessions, all professing conversion; assisted by J. D. Crymes and H. M. Ellis.

Wesson, E. T. Breland: meeting assisted by M. L. Burton, V. V. Boone, I. W. Cooper, and W. T. Griffin—a gracious meeting lasting 18 days. The church has received 56 members to date. The pastor was supplying the place for a period made vacant by the election of the pastor, T. B. Holloman, to the presidency of East Mississippi Female College.

Meadville, P. H. Howse: four meetings held, assisted by G. A. Guice, W. H. Lewis, D. A. Little, P. E., and the pastor; 26 accessions.

Waynesboro circuit, J. V. Penn: a grand meeting at Goldwood, five miles west of Waynesboro, with 24 accessions; a church organized with 32 members, and a church building later costing $600 with free labor by the people, size 26 x 40. H. C. Cochran, R. W. Fagan and William Norton composed the building committee. This was the home of Rev. John J. Golden, then a young preacher attending Millsaps College, afterwards a member of the Mississippi Conference.

Montrose circuit: a well-attended third Quarterly Conference, at *Mt. Zion*. The new church at *Montrose* was complete except painting. The District High School opened well, the best in some years. B. H. Rawls was closing his fourth year as pastor.

North Kemper circuit, W. J. Ferguson: meeting at Stonewall Schoolhouse, assisted by R. A. Breland; 10 accessions.

Marion circuit, George Bancroft: meeting at *Curtis Chapel*, assisted by J. C. Long, L. P., of Neshoba circuit; 14 accessions.

Westville, R. H. Barr: four meetings held, by R. A. Sibley at *Goshen*, six accessions; at *Westville*, by L. Carley; the third meeting also by R. A. Sibley, one accession; the fourth meeting was by M. L. White, and resulted in 25 accessions.

East End Meridian, B. F. Lewis: meeting assisted by I. L. Peebles, five additions to the church.

Clarke circuit, J. N. Ware: meeting at Cross Roads, assisted by J. N. Broadway, L. P., 15 accessions and 12 infants baptized.

Why Not circuit, F. B. Ormond: meeting assisted by J. W. Barton, local preacher, one addition; a lot secured for a church.

Binnsville circuit, N. M. Clark: meeting at Wahalak, assisted by a Presbyterian minister, Mr. Witherspoon; four accessions; at *Binnsville* meeting with 12 accessions.

Enterprise and *Stonewall:* meeting at Stonewall with 16 accessions.

Daleville, D. G. W. Ellis: meeting assisted by W. J. Ferguson; seven accessions.

Gallman circuit, W. W. Morse: meeting at Fair Play Schoolhouse, assisted by J. W. McNeill, 21 accessions and seven children baptized. No organization there.

Natchez, W. B. Lewis: a great meeting held, assisted by W. M. McIntosh; 19 had been received at the time of writing.

East End, Meridian, B. F. Lewis: T. L. Mellen, presiding elder, reported the meeting held by Beverly Carradine and W. W. Hopper.

Waynesboro and State Line, J. V. Penn: a meeting at State Line, in which 11 members were received, and a lot and lumber were secured for a new church at *Pine Bluff.* The report by the presiding elder also stated that 15 new churches would be reported in the Meridian District this year.

Ocean Springs, J. M. Pugh: a good meeting there assisted by C. H. Ellis; 10 conversions and two accessions. The church at Scranton destroyed by a recent storm. Two men who joined the church during the meeting would enter the ministry, and the two local preachers, A. Harvey Shannon and C. F. Emery, would apply for admission into the traveling connection.

Dedications

Bishop Galloway postponed the dedication of the church at *Hazlehurst* from October 15 to October 22, reported the chairman, J. S. Sexton, and the secretary, W. H. Brown, of the Building Committee.

R. F. Witt, pastor, *Lake circuit,* announced that Bishop Galloway would dedicate the church at Lawrence, almost complete, on the fourth Sunday in October at 11 o'clock, A.M.

New Editor of the Advocate

The Publishing Committee of the *New Orleans Christain Advocate* elected Dr. Warren C. Black, pastor of Mulberry Street Church, Macon, Georgia, editor and publisher. The new editor had his first editorial in the issue of November 2, 1893.

CHAPTER XXV

1894

Conference at Hazlehurst

The Mississippi Annual Conference met at Hazlehurst on Thursday, December 7, 1893, and adjourned on Monday night, December 11, Bishop Joseph Stanton Key, presiding. The attendance, both of preachers and laymen, was good. Of the 140 preachers who were in full connection in the Conference, 116 voted for delegates to the General Conference on the third day. Of the 28 laymen who were delegates, 21 were present and voting. The Secretaries were named as follows: C. G. Andrews, Secretary; assistants J. A. B. Jones, W. R. Sims, J. W. Chambers, J. G. Galloway, W. L. Linfield, and G. H. Galloway.

The Conference held the first day's session in the Court House. At the end of the first day it was announced that the remainder of the Conference would be held in the Baptist Church, presumably on invitation of A. A. Lomax, pastor of the Baptist Church, who had delivered an address of welcome.

Visitors

Rev. W. R. Lambuth, M.D., afterwards Bishop, one of the Missionary Secretaries, addressed the Conference on the subject of Missions; Rev. W. H. La Prade of New Orleans addressed the Conference in the interest of Paine Institute, and an offering of $62.95 was taken; Dr. E. E. Hoss, Editor of the *Nashville Christian Advocate,* was introduced and addressed the Conference; and W. C. Black, Editor and Publisher of the *New Orleans Christian Advocate* presented the claims of the Conference Organ.

Admissions

The following were *admitted on trial:* McKendree M. Black, from First Church, Jackson; Elbert T. Breland, from Wesson; Charles F. Emery, from Ocean Springs; Daniel Scarborough, from Columbia Circuit; A. Harvey Shannon, from Ellisville Circuit; George P. White, from Live Oak Circuit; William H. Benton, from Franklinton Circuit; Samuel B. Beall and John D. Ellis, from Roxie.

The following were admitted into *full connection:* W. T. Griffin, C. C. Evans, P. M. Brown, J. P. Haney, B. W. Lewis, G. R. Ellis, W. M. Sullivan, J. T. Abney, W. J. Dawson, M. L. White, and H. B. Trevilion.

Warren C. Black was *received by transfer* from the North Georgia Conference, and J. F. Marshall from the West Texas Conference.

Ordinations

Chas. C. Evans, Paul M. Brown, John P. Haney, James Thomas Abney, and Hiram B. Trevilion, traveling preachers, were *ordained deacons.*

Richard T. Nolan, Elbert T. Breland, Wm. Thomas Browning, Fletcher Bryant Ormond, Benjamin Franklin Hart, Daniel Scarborough, Jerome R. Whittington, and Wm. Job Roberts were ordained *local deacons.*

Hervie Mellard, William Henry Lewis, Hicks Maneese Ellis, Chas. W. Crisler, Patrick Henry Howse, Henry L. Norton, William G. Forsyth, George D. Anders, and James G. Sibley were ordained *traveling elders.*

Recognitions of Orders

By request of the Quarterly Conference of the Brookhaven church, the orders of Charles T. McKee, an elder in the Church of God, were recognized, and the orders of George Morrison, as deacon and elder, were restored by request of the Bowerton Quarterly Conference.

The Missionary Debt

T. L. Mellen, General Solicitor for the Missionary Debt, reported that a balance of $2,568.26 was still due by this Conference. The total reported for the Conference year was $1,312.12. The only District paying its apportionment in full was the Seashore, with $578.90 paid on an assessment of $550.00.

Report on State of the Church

The report made to the Conference by L. P. Brown, chairman of the Committee on the State of the Church, reveals both the stringency of the times (for 1893 was a year of nationwide financial depression) and the large spiritual gains.

> "While this has been a year of great financial depression throughout the entire state, characterized by many failures in the commercial and business world, and while cyclones and overflows have devastated at least two large areas within our bounds, yet the financial and spiritual status is that of an improvement over last year. Home altars have multiplied, and the circulation of our Church papers has increased. A prayerful business spirit seems to have entered largely into the plans and methods in the various charges.
>
> "Accessions on profession of faith, 3,073, being an increase over last year of 958, and an average of 22⅜ to each preacher. While we note an increase, yet it took fourteen members twelve months to bring a single soul to Christ on profession of faith. Meridian District has made a notable advance. . . . The reports from the various districts show the largest gains from the circuits."

Thus what has been a Church-wide goal in 1950 (every fourteen members win one on profession of faith) as promoted by the General Board of Evangelism by authority of the 1948 General Conference, was actually accomplished by our Conference in 1893, with regret that the success was not even greater.

Memorials to the General Conference

W. R. Sims, chairman, reported for the Committee on Memorials the following:

"*Resolved,* That we do hereby memorialize the General Conference meeting in May, 1894 as follows:

1. That such legislation be had as will give to the Bishops and General Board of Missions as definite control of the whole system of evangelism among us as is consistent with our economy.

To this end we suggest that provision be made for two classes of evangelists, to be known respectively as General Evangelists and Conference Evangelists, or to be designated by some similarly distinctive and appropriate terms. . . .

2. For suitable legislation placing the responsibility of collecting funds called for by the Annual Conference on the laity of the church.

3. For legislation requiring preachers in charge to give time and care to the instruction of persons applying for membership in our church in the duties thereof before bringing them into full fellowship with God's people; adding for this purpose a paragraph to section IV, of chapter 3 on Duties of Preachers in charge."

Colportage

W. D. Dominick, the Conference Colporteur, reported that notwithstanding the financial depression which 1893 witnessed, the total business amounted to $12,000. There was stock on hand amounting to $7,000; total liabilities were $4,000; and $3,000 in outstanding accounts were due the Depository.

All publications of The Publishing House in Nashville could be secured at the Depository in Jackson at Nashville prices.

Delegates to the General Conference

On the third day of the Conference, Saturday, December 9, delegates to the General Conference, which was to meet in May, 1894, were elected as follows: *Clerical,* C. G. Andrews, W. C. Black, A. F. Watkins, H. W. Featherstun, and T. L. Mellen; alternates, D. A. Little, and W. L. C. Hunnicutt; *Lay,* T. A. Holloman,

R. W. Millsaps, J. S. Sexton, W. M. Thornton, and W. A. Gunning; alternates, Robert Babington, and L. P. Brown.

Report on Millsaps

The report of the Board of Education to the Conference concerning Millsaps College is worthy of note:

"Continues to have a marked success. The first session closed in June last, having matriculated 149 students. The work of the year gave general satisfaction, and the exercises of the first commencement were very interesting.

"The second session opened in September and has matriculated 138 students to date, with the promise of many more after the Christmas holidays. Eighteen of this number are preparing for the ministry, and sixteen are the sons of preachers.

"The last annual meeting of the Board elected Prof. A. M. Muckenfuss, an accomplished Christian gentleman, a graduate of Wofford College, and a professional student for two years in John Hopkins' University, to the Chair of Science. Apparatus has been purchased, rooms have been fitted up, and this department is well organized and attended.

"The moral and religious tone of the student body is cause for great gratification. There is an efficient Y.M.C.A. and a regular weekly College prayer meeting. A wholesome revival influence has pervaded the institution, resulting in the conversion of several excellent young men.

"Only a small amount remains uncollected of the first $100,000 of the endowment. This, it is believed, will be in hand in the next fifteen or twenty days. There is now invested on regular endowment fund $71,600, in interest-bearing bonds, and there is $500 in cash yet uninvested. Scholarships funds are: W. H. Tribette, scholarship, $3,000; Clara Chrisman, scholarship, $709.21; W. H. Watkins, scholarship, $350; Children's scholarship, $38. These are yielding an income.

"With gratitude to the donor, the Board acknowledges the gift of $500 from Mrs. J. R. Bingham, of Carrollton, to be known as the Martha A. Turner Library Fund. The amount has been invested in bonds and the annual interest will be used in the purchase of books.

"Major Millsaps has also placed us under renewed and grateful obligations by a gift of $500, which has been expended in books. There are now about 3,000 volumes in the Library.

"Two cottages have been erected since last Conference, and quite a sum has been expended in beautifying the grounds, under the supervision of a professional landscape gardener. A great need is felt for a building to be used as a Steward's hall, where table board can be had cheaper than ten dollars per month.

"Major Millsaps has made another most generous proposition to duplicate any amount annually which the Church will give to any interest of the College, from one dollar up to twenty-five thousand dollars. Mississippi Methodists ought to hasten the steps which will place this additional $50,000 in the assets of the College.

"The places of the following Trustees of Millsaps College are made vacant by the expiration of the time for which they were elected, viz.: C. G. Andrews, W. C. Black, R. W. Millsaps and J. A. Lewis. This board recommends that the same parties be elected to their respective places.

"The resignation of T. L. Mellen is recommended by this Board to be accepted, and the name of W. B. Lewis is hereby presented for election as a Trustee in his stead.

"The place of Luther Sexton on the Board of Trustees is made vacant by his removal to Louisiana, and this Board recommends that Peter James be elected in his stead.

"We recommend that the Bishop be requested to appoint I. W. Cooper as agent of Millsaps' College."

Major R. W. Millsaps

A good picture of Major R. W. Millsaps appeared in the *Advocate* of March 1, 1894, and a sketch of the life of this great benefactor. The family, being of moderate means, was unable to send him, their 17-year-old son, to college. Guided by the suggestion of a Methodist preacher, he went to Hanover College in Indiana. He had by the labors of his own hands secured the sum of $58.50; at first he boarded at one dollar a week, but found this too much for his purse and procured cheaper board. During his four years he labored at any kind of work he could get, and at the end he was found on the platform with the honors of the Senior Class, and received his diploma. Still without money, he worked his way back home on a boat. After teaching for a while, and having saved his money, he went to Harvard University and began the study of law. At Harvard he worked his way by sawing wood and doing other manual labor. He graduated with distinction in 1858; as he was leaving the rostrum with his diploma, someone handed him a sealed envelope containing a check for $600, which was, he surmised, from Col. Glass, in whose home he had been a tutor. After the death of Col. Glass whose property had been swept away, he repaid this with compound interest, amounting to over $1,200.

Millsaps College

The phenomenal growth of this college and the bright prospects of its continued expansion encouraged the church to seek greater means for its larger development, and to prepare for a great school in the future. The Board of Trustees, led by Bishop Charles B. Galloway, chairman, and all the faculty, led by Dr. W. B. Murrah, president, had strong faith in the project; and the church responded well.

I. W. Cooper, the Agent, made an appeal to the young people of the State for $5,000 to be duplicated by Major Millsaps for a large hall for young men of limited means.

Pictures of the faculty of the college appeared in the issue of the *Advocate* on March 8: W. B. Murrah, D.D., President; A. M. Muckenfuss, W. L. Weber, G. C. Swearengin, N. A. Patillo, and M. M. Black.

Rev. J. W. Malone of Como, had in charge the matter of building a cottage on the grounds in memory of the late J. H. Brooks of the North Mississippi Conference, for the use of boys of moderate means, that they might attend the college at the lowest possible cost. It resulted in the erection of the Brooks Memorial Cottage, a help for many boys for years to come. The cost was $1,500.

During the summer President Murrah indicated the anticipation of a larger attendance at the next session, reported the completion of the John A. Ellis Memorial Cottage, and told of another one being built by Major Millsaps, called the Millsaps Cottage. He quoted Bishop Galloway who, in departing for his extended trip to Asia to hold Conferences, urged a larger appropriation by the two Conferences for the college, hoping that each Conference would raise $3,000 annually. Dr. Murrah set forth the need that this be done.

Prof. N. A. Patillo, professor of mathematics, was compelled to resign on account of ill health, and Dr. James Adolphus Moore, of Southern University, was elected to succeed him. Prof. R. S. Ricketts and Prof. E. L. Bailey were elected for the Preparatory Department of Millsaps College.

Peter James agreed to pay the necessary expenses of one young man at the college, to be selected by the presiding elders of the Mississippi Conference. Henry P. Lewis, Jr., was selected.

Commencements and Colleges

Hon. J. S. Sexton of Hazlehurst, delivered the annual address at Whitworth Female College in June, and Dr. H. C. Morrison, Missionary Secretary, preached the Commencement Sermon at Millsaps.

Dr. W. C. Black preached the sermon at the East Mississippi Female College, Meridian, on Sunday, June 3, to an overflowing congregation. T. B. Holloman preached at night on "The Perfect Man."

Centenary College conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon E. H. Mounger, and the degree of Master of Arts upon B. F. Jones.

Changes in Colleges

J. W. Chambers, formerly financial agent of Millsaps College, was elected to the presidency of Whitworth Female College. He was a graduate of Centenary College.

M. M. Black retired from the faculty of Millsaps College at commencement time, and was appointed by Bishop Keener to fill out the unexpired term of J. W. Chambers at Crystal Springs.

H. W. Featherstun resigned the presidency of Edward McGehee College at Woodville, and Prof. J. A. Monroe, M.A., a graduate of Trinity College, North Carolina, was elected president.

Prof. L. T. Fitzhugh, whose daughter was married to Dr. W. B. Murrah, gave notice that his connection with Whitworth Female College would be severed at the close of the present session, and that he would establish a college or high school in Jackson. He had purchased the elegant mansion of Col. Jones S. Hamilton, called Belhaven. The purpose was carried out and he became the first president of Belhaven College and continued for years. The college is still existent and is now a flourishing institution under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church.

Women's Work

Mrs. Sallie Smylie, district secretary, announced a meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society, Meridian District, to be held at Enterprise on March 23, at which time Mrs. J. W. Lambuth of Japan, would be present.

The Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society of the Mississippi Conference held its annual meeting in the Methodist church in Ellisville, June 15-16. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. I. N. Chatfield; first Vice-president, Mrs. R. J. Turner; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Clara S. Cope; Recording Secretary, Mrs. B. F. Lewis; Treasurer, Mrs. T. B. Holloman. *District Secretaries*, Vicksburg, Mrs. J. M. Weems; Seashore, Mrs. R. L. Turner and Mrs. W. A. White; Brandon, Miss Lou Womack; Brookhaven, Mrs. E. P. Mellen; Meridian, Mrs. R. Kennedy; Jackson, Mrs. W. A. Gunning. The total receipts last year were $243.65. *Montrose* and *Coffedeliah* parsonages were aided $40.00 each.

District Conferences

The *Woodville* District Conference convened at Clinton, Louisiana, April 25, 1894, with P. A. Johnston, P.E., in the chair. There was a good attendance, both of preachers and laymen. There was preaching twice daily; the conference closed on Saturday evening. Delegates elected to the Annual Conference were H. C. Newsom, I. D. Wall, J. M. Sessions, and A. N. Brown.

The *Seashore* District Conference, reported by W. G. Forsyth, met in Ellisville on June 13, with all but four of the preachers present. The usual subjects were reported on and discussed. A resolution, offered by N. B. Harmon, condemning Sunday travel on the railroads and the selling of entrance tickets to the Seashore Camp Ground on the Lord's day was adopted, and the newly-appointed trustees, J. L. Dantzler, Jno. A. McLeod, and J. S. Turner, were requested to oppose this practice. A separate Board of Trustees was appointed for the district parsonage, consisting of L. N. Dantzler, Sr., Jno. A. McLeod, S. J. Johnson, R. J. Turner, and J. S. Turner, and the matter of repairing and furnishing the district parsonage was placed in their hands. H. E. Partridge was the presiding elder, and he presided over the Conference. The writer of these lines, then a young man, was a delegate to this District Conference, and was elected a delegate to the Annual Conference. Having entered Millsaps College in the fall he did not attend the Annual Conference, which met in Meridian.

The District Conference adopted the idea of erecting a cottage on the Millsaps College Campus in honor of John A. Ellis whose last work as presiding elder was on this district. T. W. Adams was appointed chairman of a committee composed of C. F. Emery as secretary and Jno. A. McLeod as treasurer. I. W. Cooper, Agent, stated that $500 had already been given, and it would require $500 more. Moss Point paid $200 of the balance and pledged $25 more. The Seashore District was to have exclusive rights to the cottage, if they raised the balance of the $500 needed.

The *Brandon* District Conference convened at Montrose on Friday, July 6, with C. McDonald, P.E., in the chair. All but three of the pastors were present. G. B. Harper was elected secretary. It was a pleasant and profitable conference. J. W. Ellison made a profound impression with his sermon, delivered principally to parents of children. Visitors present were Dr. W. B. Murrah, Millsaps College; T. B. Holloman, E. M. F. College; J. W. Chambers, Whitworth College; and W. D. Dominick, colporteur. Preaching was twice a day. Dr. Murrah delivered a great sermon on "The Choice of Moses." Heb. 11:25-27. Lay delegates elected to the Annual Conference were W. M. Thornton, G. M. Hull, S. S. Cope, and G. B. Harper. At Montrose R. Bradley was pastor in his second year. This was the seat of the Brandon District High School, under the direction of Prof. Lon D. McLaurin.

The Preachers Institute had been held at Montrose on July 4, and the District Sunday School Convention on July 5.

The *Brookhaven* District Conference met at Adams Church on Thursday, July 26, with R. D. Norsworthy, P.E., in the chair. M. L. Burton was elected secretary. The Sunday School interests were discussed, papers read, and the pastors' reports made. J. W. Chambers of Whitworth College preached an unusual sermon on Friday morning on Christian Education. M. L. Burton delivered a great sermon on Sabbath Observance, and T. L. Mellen on Missions. Lay delegates elected to the Annual Conference were Harvey Thompson, J. F. Carruth, M. M. Black, and H. G. Godbold.

The *Jackson* District Conference in its 25th session met in the church at Canton on Thursday, July 26, and adjourned on Saturday evening. Only two preachers were absent. Rev. R. G. Porter, of the North Mississippi Conference, represented the interests of Millsaps College in the absence of I. W. Cooper, Agent; Dr. W. B. Murrah, J. W. Chambers, and T. B. Holloman, presidents of their prospective colleges, were present. Lay delegates elected to the Annual Conference were C. C. Campbell, W. H. Cassels, Dr. G. P. Blundell, and R. H. Smith.

The *Vicksburg* District Conference met at Harriston on Saturday morning, July 28, with J. M. Weems, P.E., in the chair. The meeting was a District Sunday School Convention, preliminary to the business of the Conference on Monday. At 11:00 o'clock, A.M.,

W. B. Lewis preached on "The Religious Training of Children." The regular business of the Conference was taken up on Monday, with only three preachers absent. Visitors present were Dr. W. C. Black, editor; R. G. Porter, of the North Mississippi Conference, W. D. Dominick, colporteur; J. W. Chambers, of Whitworth College; T. B. Holloman, of the E. M. F. College; and I. W. Cooper, Agent, Millsaps College. Lay delegates elected to the next Annual Conference were T. A. Holloman, Rev. J. B. Fearn, Jno. A. Guice, and R. C. Kelly; alternates, L. B. Johnston, and J. D. Ireland. The secretary was W. H. Lewis. There was preaching twice daily.

Bishop Charles B. Galloway

Bishop Galloway was scheduled to deliver the literary address at Northwestern University, Chicago, on June 14. The Bishop was appointed to Western Asia for episcopal duties; his first Conference was at Kwansei Guakin on August 3; his second at Soochow, China, on October 11. He also visited the missions in the interior. Naturally his trip required much travel; his return to America was expected to be about the first of March, 1895.

Bishop Galloway contributed weekly letters, very interesting, to the *Nashville Advocate* on his mission and work in Japan and China, and these letters were also given space in the Conference Organ.

Deaths

William Griffin died at Moss Point, January 4, 1894, aged 93. Born in Burke County, Georgia, October 3, 1800, his parents moved to Mississippi when he was quite young. He was reared in Perry County, and married Miss Mary Carter, and to them were born nine children. He moved to Moss Point in 1854 and engaged in the saw mill business, and for 40 years lived there, a great help and great influence. He united with the church under Benjamin Jones at the age of 76, regretting that he had delayed in doing so; but he loved the church and gave liberally to its support, and he loved the Bible and its precious promises and truths. He said the day before the end came, "I have a blessed hope of a better life when this shall close."

N. H. Luse died at his home in Yazoo City on March 12, 1894, where he had lived many years. He was of quiet disposition but a Christian of decided convictions. He was intelligent and conversant with the great teachings of the Bible. He loved the church, was consecrated to its service, and devoted to its prosperity. His length of life was three score years and ten, his life one of honor and usefulness, and his death triumphant.

Col. Wm. R. Stuart, of Ocean Springs, for whom the famous Stuart pecan was named, and by whom it was developed, died on March 29, 1894, aged 72. He was born on the eastern shore of Maryland. He had the honor at Ocean Springs of sharing his hospitality with his friends, Bishops Pierce, Kavanaugh, Wightman, Parker, and Keener. His funeral service was conducted by his lifelong friend, Bishop John C. Keener. He was a pronounced Methodist, useful in the church, having served for many years as class leader and steward in the Carondelet Church, New Orleans. The Bishop said, "We shall never see another like him, one of the most valued citizens of Mississippi."

Mrs. Mary C. Murrah, mother of Dr. W. B. Murrah, president of Millsaps College, died on Sunday, May 5, 1894, and was buried on Monday at Columbus.

Mrs. J. W. Harmon, of the Mississippi Conference, died at the residence of her son-in-law, S. S. Cope, of Paulding, on Sunday, June 3, 1894. Funeral services were held at Central Church, Meridian, on Monday, conducted by W. W. Hopper, and she was buried at Jackson on Tuesday.

Rev. Richard Thomas Hennington died in Brazil on June 24, 1894. Born near Crystal Springs, May 19, 1830, the son of Rev. Henry Hennington, a pioneer local preacher of that section, he joined the church in early age. He married Miss Mary E. Black on October 23, 1851. He was licensed to exhort on October 12, 1855, and the following year was licensed to preach and admitted on trial into the Mississippi Conference. He served Bayou Pierre in 1857, Georgetown in 1858, Brookhaven in 1859, China Grove in 1860, and Georgetown, 1861-1862. He was located at the end of the year, but was readmitted and appointed to Georgetown again. He also served Brandon, Monticello, Georgetown and Burtonton, but located in 1867 and emigrated with his family to Brazil. His removal to Brazil ended his ministerial life, as he never learned the Portuguese language sufficiently to enable him to preach in it.

Mrs. Lucinda Minerva Jones, widow of John A. B. Jones, daughter of Major John C. Cotton and Elizabeth Hunter, died at Bolton on August 24, 1894. Born in Memphis, March 31, 1829, she received her education in a Methodist school in Memphis, and joined the church in her girlhood. The family moved to East Baton Rouge parish, Louisiana, where on June 7, 1855, she was married to John A. J. Jones of the Mississippi Conference, and, beginning at Holmesville and ending at Bolton, she shared the joys and sorrows of her distinguished husband.

Hon. T. R. Holloman, father of Rev. T. B. Holloman, died on November 19, after a brief illness. For 50 years he was a member of the Methodist Church.

Notes of Interest

T. B. Holloman, president of E. M. F. College, Meridian, and a great friend of Millsaps College, appealed for better opportunities for the girls, for more money and more help to them, now that the boys were better provided for.

A storm destroyed the church at *Zeiglerville,* on the Yazoo-Holmes county line, two years after it was built. W. J. Ferguson, pastor, made an appeal for help to rebuild.

A. D. Miller, pastor at *Oak Ridge,* called Warren Circuit, Vicksburg District, continued to stress the importance of raising money for Indian Missions, and to receive contributions.

W. W. Cammack was in charge of the Indian mission work in our Conference, and in his third year of service.

Hon. A. J. McLaurin, a staunch Methodist of Brandon, was elected United States Senator in place of General Walthall. He was a lawyer of fine abilities and was of sterling integrity. He was at the time Governor of Mississippi.

W. C. Black, editor, lectured at Pearlington for the benefit of the church, and was greeted by a large audience. The church was unfinished, but it was very commodious and substantial when completed; it stood for years, but was burned and replaced by another, not so large.

W. J. Ferguson was married on April 25, 1894, to Miss Blanche Vinson of Scooba.

H. G. Hawkins, a missionary to Japan, wrote the *Advocate* a letter on the subject, "Leaving Japan for Home."

The Gulf Coast College, a new institution at Handsboro, presided over by J. M. Pugh, M.A., a co-educational school ably manned, was scheduled to begin the first session in the fall of 1894.

Robert Selby, pastor at *Biloxi,* made an appeal for $125.00 to enable the church to purchase seats and thus make the church more attractive, and suggested that the church members send one dollar each. Since that day a more useful building was erected, largely under the pastorates of H. W. Van Hook and E. W. Lipscomb, a most excellent young preacher who died while pastor of the church.

A. D. Miller, much interested in the Indian Mission, continued to raise funds for that work which was under W. W. Cammack as pastor, and he made a recent report of about $50.00 received in amounts from ten cents to ten dollars.

Geo. H. Thompson spent 42 days in bed with slow fever, and the doctor ordered a month or two of vacation. During his absence a great revival took place in the church, presumably at *Lauderdale;* there was a number of conversions and several heads of families joined the church, besides a number of others. Those who held the meeting were A. T. Bell, James McCaskill, a layman to be licensed to preach, and J. A. Bowen of Macon.

Dedications

The new church at *Eucutta* was dedicated by Dr. W. C. Black on June 24.

A fine picture of the beautiful new church at Pearlington appeared in the *Advocate* of July 12; the seating capacity was 350. After a great sermon by Bishop John C. Keener from II Peter 1:18-19 the church was dedicated by him on July 1. J. V. Penn, under whose pastorate the church was erected, had been pastor but six months when this great work was accomplished. The writer had the privilege and pleasure of conducting a revival there in 1905, during the pastorate of L. A. Darsey. This church was later consumed by fire and was replaced by a substantial but smaller building.

A church built under the direction of W. W. Morse, pastor, at *Old Crystal Springs* on the Gallman Circuit was dedicated by R. D. Norsworthy, presiding elder.

T. L. Mellen, a former presiding elder, dedicated the new church at *Quitman* on the fifth Sunday in October, and remained a few days preaching in a very acceptable way.

Preachers' Institute

A Preachers' Institute of the Brookhaven District was organized by the adoption of a constitution, the presiding elder of the district being president. M. L. Burton was elected secretary. The times for meetings were set for April and October of each year. The first meeting in April had papers on "The Importance of Doctrinal Preaching," presumably by J. W. Chambers, reporter; "The Administration of Discipline," by R. D. Norsworthy, P.E.; "Pastoral Visitation," by T. L. Mellen; "What Is It to Keep the Sabbath?" by W. T. Griffin, and "Do We Thus Observe It?" by M. L. Burton.

The Institute, as reported by M. L. Burton, Secretary met at

Crystal Springs October 16-17, six preachers being absent on account of sickness and other things. A paper read by T. L. Mellen on the best method of taking a collection was filled with good suggestions; a paper by R. W. Bailey on pastoral instruction of children stressed the importance of the Sunday School as the best place for pastoral instruction. R. D. Norsworthy and W. G. Backus had papers on Sanctification, one showing the meaning of the word as used in the Bible, and the other the standards of the Church on the subject. C. M. Crossley and I. B. Robertson discussed church entertainments as a means of raising money.

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MEMBERSHIP, SUNDAY SCHOOLS, CHURCHES

Conference Session	Members	Adults Baptized	Infants Baptized	Profession of Faith	Transfers	Sunday Schools	S. S. Teachers	S. S. Scholars	Churches	Valuation	Parsonages	Valuation
1870	15,386	1,064	892	......	......	136	822	5,942	268	$270,553	17	$ 26,150
1871	17,124	1,142	948	......	......	180	952	6,697	300	303,341	17	28,200
1872	17,982	1,033	987	......	......	183	1,008	6,261	290	323,135	18	33,000
1873	19,656	1,180	1,116	......	......	185	1,184	7,319	288	329,460	21	35,050
1874	20,639	986	884	1,806	......	180	1,087	6,583	254	287,275	28	44,400
1875	21,168	772	797	1,186	......	175	1,067	6,474	287	285,450	27	41,740
1876	21,626	821	1,014	......	......	187	1,163	7,287	306	249,530	32	38,650
1877	21,871	888	1,011	......	......	213	1,165	7,552	315	324,817	39	43,355
1878	21,505	817	1,018	......	......	241	1,281	8,257	316	218,481	46	45,650
1879	22,457	1,053	1,441	**Total Accessions**	......	269	1,372	9,677	302	272,779	50	46,275
1880	23,582	858	1,207	2,212	......	266	1,449	9,939	305	267,825	51	47,425
1881	23,901	702	999	2,308	......	284	1,411	9,827	342	325,801	54	47,715
1882	23,934	844	1,621	3,115	......	291	1,511	10,198	336	303,000	61	49,086
1883	25,686	1,078	1,171	3,515	......	316	1,596	10,735	347	278,575	63	55,465
1884	26,530	1,010	1,295	3,573	......	288	1,517	10,705	356	302,823	65	48,870
1885	27,827	1,116	1,123	3,566	......	311	1,621	11,840	353	314,595	71	61,075
1886	30,315	1,628	1,474	......	......	339	1,846	13,699	363	335,560	66	60,360
1887	32,265	1,244	1,476	......	......	389	1,949	14,610	384	353,075	71	64,670
1888	33,413	1,228	1,435	......	......	399	1,953	15,295	394	358,250	80	71,050
1889	36,212	1,540	1,539	**Profession of Faith**	**Transfers**	416	2,079	16,203	406	352,660	85	82,695
1890	37,696	1,411	1,642	3,266	1,619	404	2,254	17,302	410	414,935	90	84,575
1891	38,213	1,194	1,378	2,745	1,585	398	2,212	17,051	425	429,705	95	94,650
1892	38,608	1,034	1,341	2,515	1,689	403	2,113	16,240	421	446,325	104	95,865
1893	40,284	1,328	1,332	3,072	1,919	406	2,181	16,901	418	442,982	111	98,982

CHURCHES AIDED BY CHURCH EXTENSION

Giving the Annual Conference session that aid was granted

1883
Bogue Chitto
Scranton
Mizpah (Fayette)

1884
Amite City, La.
Flora
McComb
Franklinton
Sukelena (Lauderdale Co.)
Sandersville
New Prospect (Smith Co.)

1885
Poplarville
Purvis
Lawrence
Pocohontas
Cantrell (Scott Co.)
Raymond

1886
Wilson, La.
Sandersville
Good Hope (Covington Co.)
Decatur
Carlisle
Silver Creek
Pelahatchie
West Jackson (now Capitol Street)

1887
Augusta
Laurel
Gallman
McNair
Slaughter (La.)
West Jackson
Union Academy

1888
Ponchatoula (La.)
McGowan Chapel
Carthage
Rolling Fork
Bethany (Simpson Co.)
Bethel (Covington Co.)
Beech Springs (Neshoba Co.)
Harriston
Lebanon (Jefferson Co.)
Knoxville
Mt. Herman (La.)
Oak Grove (Franklin Co.)
Beulah (Issaquena Co.)

1889
Harriston
Cedar Grove (Amite Co.)
Payne Chapel (Marion Co.)
Ocohay (Covington)
Union (Newton Co.)
Sarepta (Claiborne Co.)
Anding (Yazoo Co.)
Matthews Chapel (Copiah Co.)
St. Mary Chapel
Gasque Chapel
Wesley Chapel (La.)

1890
Pleasant Grove parsonage
Pelahatchie (Rankin)
Spring Hill (Kemper Co.)
Bethel (Sharkey Co.)
Campbellsville (Sunflower)
Stonewall
Handsboro
Blue Hill (Jefferson Co.)
Pine Grove (Neshoba)
Killian Chapel (La.)
Fisher Church (La.)
Spring Hill (Newton Co.)
Pachuta
Bradley Chapel (Warren Co.)
Learned
Drake Chapel (Rankin Co.)
Johnston Station (Pike)
Clarksburg (Rankin)
New Providence (Rankin)
Lodebar (Rankin)

Mt. Zion (Covington
Bethel (Jones)
Harriston
East End, Meridian
Lauderdale
Willow Springs (Claiborne)

1891
Betico—Tallisheek Ct.
Biloxi
Hopewell (Marion Co.)
Harriston
Good Hope (Newton Co.)
Hickory
Learned
Wesley Chapel
Lone Pine (Madison Co.)
Stonewall

1892
Ponchatoula
Trenton
Neshoba
Lawrence
Poplar Springs
Good Hope
Blountville
Port Vincent
Montrose
South Side
DeKalb

1893
Linwood
Bethel
Scooba
Mellen
Blair
Eucutta
New Hope
Live Oak
Mt. Olive
Avara
Newton
Adams
Gloster
Gum Springs
Oak Grove
Bay St. Louis
Missionary
Quitman

PARSONAGES

Year first reported at Annual Conference
Some of the 1870 parsonages are older

1870
Brookhaven
Buffalo
Crystal Springs
DeKalb
Fayette
Jackson Circuit
Marion
Meridian
North Warren
Paulding
Shubuta
Summit
Trenton
Vicksburg
Warren
Wilkinson
Woodville
Yazoo Station

1871
Brookhaven Mission
Clarke
East Baton Rouge
Jackson Station
Spring Hill

1872
Clinton, La.
East Pascagoula
Madison
Mt. Olivet

1873
Dover

1874
Camden
Clover Hill
Garlandsville
Port Gibson
Providence
Walnut Grove

1875
Yazoo Circuit

1876
Bayou Sara
China Grove
Franklinton
Newton
Silver Creek
Waynesboro

1877
Brownsville
Canton
Hazelhurst
Kingston
Morton & Forest
Moss Point
Ocean Springs
Raymond
Sharon
Wayne

1878
Beauregard
Enon
Enterprise
Paulding
Pearlington
Scotland
St. Helena
Union

1879
Amite City
Cayuga
Natchez
Rolling Fork
Spring Hill
Tranquil

1880
Binnsville

Fannin
McComb City
North Wilkinson

1881
Beech Springs
Crystal Springs
Lauderdale
Marvin
Williamsburg

1882
Benton
Brandon
Clinton (La)
Covington Circuit
Edwards
Franklin Mission
Mt. Carmel
Rocky Springs

1883
Carthage
Clinton
DeSoto
Lake
Lauderdale
Mayersville
Vancleave
Vossburg

1884
Decatur
Ellisville
Hattiesburg
Raleigh

1885
Deer Creek
Hattiesburg
Hillsboro
Hinds Mission
Meadville
Utica
Wesson & Beauregard

1886
Centerville
Flora Circuit
Meridian Circuit
Percy's Creek Station

1887
Forest & Morton
Hattiesburg
Holmesville
Shiloh

1888
Adams
Anquilla
Bendeville
Bowerton
Columbia
Gallman
Livingston
Mt. Carmel

1889
Martin
Montrose
Natchez, Wesley Chapel
Tallisheek
Winchester

1890
Daleville
Live Oak
Magnolia
North Wilkinson
Pipkin & Zachary
Pleasant Grove
Poplarville

1891
Americus
Caseyville
Eastabutchie
E. Feliciana
Heidelberg
Jackson (La.)
Lake City & Lodi
North Wilkinson
Purvis
Rose Hill

1892
Bay St. Louis
Brandon
Covington (La.)
Jackson, Capitol St.
Magnolia Circuit
Neshoba
Westville
Whittington

1893
Amite Circuit

Augusta
Bolton
Chunky
Clarksburg
Gloster & Centerville
Hermanville
South Warren
Springfield (La)
Zion

1894

Matherville
Steen's Creek
Terry
Washington

PASTORAL CHARGES—1799-1869

in the Mississippi Annual Conference within the bounds of the State of Mississippi and the Florida parishes of Louisiana, arranged alphabetically and giving the year of the Annual Conference which first listed the charge in the appointments.

A

Adams, 1828
Adams Co. Colored Mission, 1836
Alberson Mission, 1839
American Bend, 1858
Amite, 1810
Amite (La.), 1840
Arcola (La.), 1861
Attala, 1836
Augusta Mission, 1859
Austin Mission, 1856

B

Bachelor's Bend Col. Mission, 1845
Bankston, 1855
Barrows, 1855
Baton Rouge, 1832
E. Baton Rouge, 1854
Bayou Mason Mission, 1857
Bayou Pierre, 1824
Bayou Pierre Col. Mission, 1839
Bayou Sara, 1844
Bayou Sara Col. Mission, 1848
Bear Creek, 1853
Bear Creek Col. Mission, 1854
Beauregard, 1866
Beaver Dam Mission, 1863
Bee Lake, 1855
Bellefontaine, 1869
Benton, 1836
Big Black, 1824
Big Black Col. Mission, 1853
Big Sand Mission, 1832
Biloxi, 1843
Black Bayou, 1860
Black Creek Mission, 1852
Black Hawk, 1852
Black Jack & Col. Mission, 1854
Bogue Chitto, 1866
Bolivar, 1834
Bolivar Col. Mission, 1847
Bovina Col. Mission, 1858
Brandon, 1839
Brandon Col. Mission, 1844
Brandywine, 1860
Brandywine Col. Mission, 1861
Brook Haven, 1857
Brookhaven Circuit, 1865
Brookhaven Col. Charge, 1865
Brownsville, 1869
Brownsville Col. Charge, 1866
Buffalo, 1851
Buffalo Col. Mission, 1855
Burkettsville, 1865
Burtonton, 1864
Burtonton Col. Mission, 1863
Byhalia, 1867

C

Camden, 1855
Camden Col. Charge, 1866
Canton, 1837
Canton Col. Mission, 1849
Carmel & Lebanon Col. Mis., 1851
Carrol, 1834
Carroll Col. Mission, 1838
Carrollton, 1846
  N. Carrollton, 1867
Carthage, 1847
Cayuga Circuit, 1858
Cayuga Col. Mission, 1858
Center & Col. Charge, 1865
Chefunckta Mission, 1864
Chickasahay, 1817
Chickasaw Mission, 1835
China Grove, 1864
Choctaw Mission, 1823
Chulahoma, 1836
Chunky Mission, 1864
Claiborne, 1805

Clinton, 1831
Clinton Col. Mission, 1859
Clinton (La.)
Clover Hill, 1866
Coella, 1829
Coffeeville Ct., 1836
Cold Springs Col. Mission, 1854
Cold Water Mission, 1835
Coles Creek, 1827
Coles Creek Col. Mission, 1834
Columbia, 1823
Columbus, 1830
Commerce, 1839
Comite Mission, 1852
Concord, 1857
Concordia Ct., 1834
Covington (La.), 1832
Covington (Miss.), 1844
Crystal Springs, 1829
Crystal Springs Col. Mission, 1838

D

Day's, 1869
Decatur, 1838
Deer Creek Col. Mission, 1848
  Lower Deer Creek, 1856
  Middle Deer Creek, 1856
  Upper Deer Creek, 1850
Double Springs, 1857
Duncan's Plantation, 1857
Durant, 1867

E

Ebenezer, 1856
Eden, 1868
Ellisville, 1859
Elizabeth Female Academy, 1824
Emory & Col. Charge, 1866

F

Fannin, 1866
Fayette, 1856
Feliciana, 1826
Feliciana Col. Mission, 1838
  E. Feliciana & Col. Mission, 1852
  W. Feliciana & Col. Mission, 1854
Flint Creek Mission, 1859
Forest, 1866
Forest Grove, 1866
Fort Adams, 1842
Franklinton (La.), 1844
French Camp, 1842

G

Gainesville, 1847
Garlandsville, 1860
Garlandsville Col. Mission, 1857
Georgetown, 1856
German Mission, (La.), 1859
Gibsonport, 1827
Good Hope, 1866
Goshen, 1865
Grand Gulf, 1832
Greensboro, 1838
Greensburg, (La.), 1857
Greenville, 1850
Greenville Col. Mission, 1856
Greenwood, 1849
Grenada, 1836
Grove Colored Mission, 1848

H

Hammond (La.), 1867
Hampton's Plantation Col. Mission, 1847
Handsboro, 1859
Hazlehurst, 1864
Hebron (with Port Gibson), 1836
Hickory, 1866
Hill's Plantation Col. Mission, 1847
Hillsboro, 1848
Holly Springs, 1836
Holly Springs, University, 1838
Holmes, 1835
Holmes Col. Mission, 1839
Holmesville, 1854
Homochitto Mission, 1855
Honey Island Col. Mission, 1858

I

Indian Bayou, 1866
Issaquena Col. Mission, 1846
Ittawamba Mission, 1839

J

Jackson, 1833
Jackson, Col. Charge, 1848
Jackson, (La.), 1851
Jackson, (La.), Colored Mission, 1851
Jasper Col. Mission, 1854
Jefferson
  N. Jefferson Col. Mission, 1856
  S. Jefferson Col. Mission, 1856

K

Kingston, 1848
Kingston & Col. Mission, 1854
Kosciusko, 1867

L

Lafayette (La.) Mission, 1834
Lafayette Col. Mission, 1840
La Fourche, 1829
Lake, 1861
Lake Lee, 1865
Lake Washington Mission, 1838
Lake Washington Col. Mission, 1847
Laurel Hill (La.) & Col. Mission, 1855
Leaf River, 1822
Lebanon Col. Mission. 1851
Leota, 1865
Lexington, 1853
Lexington Col. Charge, 1866
Liberty, 1867
Line Creek, 1864
Livingston (La.), 1853
Livingston (Miss.), 1853
Lobutcha Mission, 1858
Louisville, 1836
Louisville Col. Mission, 1847

M

Macedonia, 1864
Madison, 1829
Madison Co. Col. Mission, 1834
Madison College, 1856
Madisonville (La.), 1832
Madisonville, (Miss.), 1859
Magnolia, 1865
Manchester, 1836
Martinsville, 1869
McNutt, 1869
McWillie's Col. Mission, 1850
Meadville, 1857
Meadville Col. Charge, 1865
Middeton, 1846
Middleton Col. Mission, 1851
Midway Col. Mission, 1867, (Woodville Dist.)
Midway Col. Mission, 1853, (Sharon Dist.)
Milldale & Col. Mission, 1859
Miller's Bend, 1856
Mississippi Mission, 1839, (Natchez Dist.)
Monroe Mission, 1839
Monticello, 1823
Moore's Plantation, 1861
Mount Carmel, 1864
Mount Olive, 1863
Mount Olivet, 1859
Mount Zion, 1868

N

Natchez, 1799
Natchez Col. Mission, 1837
New Carthage, 1837
Newton Mission, 1836
New Orleans, 1811
New Orleans Col. Mission, 1834
  Poydras Station, 1840
  Spain Station, 1840
  Duvergeburg, 1840
  African Church, 1842
  Carrolton, 1842
  Seaman Mission, 1842
  Moreau Street, 1842
  Lafayette, 1842
  New Basin, 1844
  First Municipality, 1845
  Magazine & Gretna, 1845
  Colonel Preston's Col. Mission, 1845
N. O. I & G. N.R.R. & German Mission, 1859

O

Ocahay, 1863
Oktibbeha Col. Mission, 1855
Oktibbeha Ct., 1857
Old Queen's School, 1828
Oxford, 1836

P

Pass Christian Mission, 1859
Paulding, 1837
Paulding Col. Charge, 1865
Pearl River, 1812
Pearl River Col. Mission, 1846
  W. Pearl (La.), 1857
Pearlington, 1836
Percy's Creek & Col. Mission, 1855
Philadelphia, 1848
Pierce's Chapel, 1857
Pickneyville, 1842
Pickneyville Col. Mission, 1854
Placquemine (La.), 1842
Plattsburg, 1867
Pleasant Valley, 1868

Ponchatoula (La.), 1859
Point Worthington, 1858
Polkville Mission, 1856
Pontotoc, 1836
Port Gibson, 1824
Port Gibson Collegiate Academy, 1858
Port Hudson, (La.), 1859
Princeton, 1849
Providence Mission, 1829
Providence Col. Mission, 1839

R

Raleigh, 1837
Rankin, 1832
Rankin County Col. Mission, 1843
Raymond, 1832
Red Creek, 1864
Rehoboth, 1869
Richland, 1853
Richmond, 1845
Robinson's Plantation Mission, 1854
Rocky Springs, 1855
Rocky Springs Col. Mission, 1850
Rodney, 1867
Rodney Col. Charge, 1865
Roebuck, 1860
Rolling Fork, 1851

S

Salem, 1836
Sandy Creek, 1836
Scotland, 1854
Scotland Col. Charge, 1865
Sea Shore, 1854
Seneashea School, 1828
  Siniasha Mission, 1834
Sharon, 1848
Sharon Col. Mission, 1849
Sharon Female College, 1846
Shenoakhitte, 1829
Shiloh, 1866
Sidon Mission, 1855
Silver Creek, 1860 (Yazoo Dist.)
Silver Creek Col. Mission, 1861
Springhill, 1838, (Grenada Dist.)
Spring Hill, (La.) Col. Mission, 1851
Springfield, 1836
Spring Ridge, 1853 (Hinds Co.)
Starkville, 1845
Steele Chapel, 1855
Strong River Mission, 1855
St. Helena, 1831
St. Helena Col. Mission, 1859
St. Joseph, 1829
St. Tammany, 1826
Sulphur Springs, 1864
Sunflower, 1847
Summit, 1868
Sweetwater, 1826
Sylvarena, 1867 (Sylvania)

T

Tallahatchie Mission, 1833
Talula, 1849
Tangipahoa, 1869
Terry, 1866
Thompson's Creek (La.) Col. Mission, 1858
Thornton Chapel, 1855
Tishomingo, 1837
Tombigbee, 1811
Trenton, 1863
Trinity, 1867
Tunica Mission, 1838
Tushkahemytta, 1829

U

Union, 1857
Union Col. Charge, 1865
Upper Fauxburg (La.) Mission, 1834

V

Vaiden, 1867
Valley Col. Mission, 1855
Vernon, 1842
Vernon Col. Mission, 1849
Vick Plantation, 1851
Vicksburg, 1830
Vicksburg Col. Mission, 1851
Vicksburg Female Academy, 1840
Victoria, 1844

W

Walnut Bayou Col. Mission, 1840
Walnut Grove, 1867
Warren, 1824
Warren Co. Col. Mission, 1834
Warren Co. Male Academy, 1836
  N. Warren, 1855
  N. Warren Col. Mission, 1855
  S. Warren, 1868
Washington, 1810
Washington & Col. Mission, 1854

Webster, 1857
Wesley Chapel, 1854
Wesson, 1866
Wesson Col. Charge, 1866
Westville, 1853
Wheeling Mission, 1854
Whitefield, 1869
Whitesand Creek, 1818
Whitworth Female College, 1866
Wilkinson, 1805
Winona, 1861
Woodville, 1835
Woodville Female Academy, 1865
Woodville Col. Mission, 1861

Y

Yazoo, 1828
Yazoo City, 1843
Yazoo Col. Mission, 1838
Yazoo River Mission, 1837
Yellow Bucher, 1829
Yalo Busha Mission, 1833
Yockanukena, 1829

Z

Zilpah Mission, 1865

PASTORAL CHARGES—1870-95

in the Mississippi Annual Conference
arranged alphabetically and giving the year of the Annual Conference which first listed the charge in the appointments.
(Districts in parethesis for location)

A

Adamsville (Meridian), 1886
Americus, 1882
Anguilla, 1887
Augusta (Seashore), 1885

B

Barlow, 1894
Bayshore, 1870
Bay St. Louis, 1879
Beech Springs, 1880
Bentonia, 1889
Bethel (Brookhaven), 1877
Betoville (Woodville), 1888
Binnsville, 1879
Black Creek Mission (Seashore), 1894
Bolton Circuit, 1892
Bowerton, 1886
Buck Springs Mission (Brandon) 1881
Big Creek Mission (Summit), 1871

C

Cane Ridge, 1870
Cary, 1888
Caseyville (Brookhaven), 1890
Cato (Brandon), 1879
Centerville, Now Conehatta, 1873
Centerville, 1885
Chotard Landing, 1876
Clarke, 1870
Clarksburg (Brandon), 1889
Concord (Woodville), 1876
Conehatta, 1887
Covington (Seashore), 1887

D

Daleville Station, 1889
DeKalb, 1870
Dennisville (Vicksburg), 1883
DeSoto, 1873
Dover, 1872
Dry Grove (Brookhaven), 1875

E

Eastabutchie, 1890
Ebenezer Mission (Seashore), 1878
Edwards, 1880
Energy & Camp Ground (Meridian), 1885
Enon, 1870
Enterprise Ct., 1870
Enterprise Mission, 1870
Enterprise Station, 1870
Escatawpa, 1893
Eucutta, 1892

F

Fair River Mission (Brookhaven), 1881
Farmington, La., 1870
Flora, 1885
Forest Hill, 1877
Franklin Mission (Seashore) 1881
Fuller (Enterprise Dist.), 1895

G

Gallman, 1888
Gloster, 1889
Green, 1870

H

Harriston, 1893
Hattiesburg, 1883
Hebron, (Brandon), 1885
Heidelberg, 1883
Hermanville, 1892
Hinds Mission, 1880
Homewood, 1876
Hopewell (Meridian), 1889

I

Indian Mission (Brandon), 1893

J

Jackson, West Jackson, 1883
  Capitol St., 1890
  First Church, 1889
(Previously First Church called Jackson)

K

Kemper-North Kemper, 1892
Knoxville (Vicksburg), 1883

L

Lake City (Jackson), 1884
Lauderdale, 1875
Laurel, 1894
Leaf——East Leaf, 1889
Leakesville, 1888
Learned Circuit, 1892
Lebanon (Brookhaven), 1889
Linwood, 1880
Live Oak (Woodville), 1889
Lodi, 1880
Logtown, 1894
Long Beach, 1895
Log Creek Mission (Meridian), 1881
Ludlow Mission, 1880

M

Manassas, 1890
Martin (Fayette & Martin), 1879
Marvin, 1880
Matherville, 1893
Meridian, 1870
  Meridian Circuit, 1883
  East End, 1890
  West End, 1889
  First Church, 1890
  Meridian Circuit, 1890
  Central, 1891
  South Side, 1892
  Poplar Springs, 1895
Midway (near Benton) 1879
Montrose, 1888
Moss Point, 1876
Mount Hebron, 1880
McComb City Mission, 1873
McGowan, 1876

N

Natchez City Mission, 1882
  Wesley, 1883
  Jefferson St., 1884
Neshoba, 1883
New Hope (Brookhaven) 1888
New River (Woodville) 1887
Newton, 1875
Nicholson Mission, 1894

O

Oak Hill, 1877
Ocean Springs, 1871
Osyka, 1894

P

Pachuta, 1894
Pascagoula, 1870
  W. Pascagoula, 1870
Pearl—East Pearl, 1888
Pelehatchie, 1875
Perry Circuit, 1890
Pipkin's Chapel, 1873
Plains (La.), 1870
Pleasant Grove (Brookhaven), 1894
Pocahontas, 1891
Poplarville, 1883
Porterville, 1890
Port Vincent, 1875
Prairie Mission (Brandon) 1877
Purvis, 1890

Q

Quitman, 1873

R

Red Creek Mission, 1880
Rose Hill, 1890
Roxie, 1886

S

Sandersville, 1883
Scotland Chapel (Brandon Dist.), 1870
Scranton, 1882
Shady Grove (Meridian), 1878
Shubuta, 1871
Skipwith (Mayersville & Sk.), 1882
Slaughter, La., 1891
Soule Chapel (Jackson), 1874
Soule Mission (Seashore), 1876

Soule (Meridian), 1893
Spring Cottage Mission, 1880
Spring Hill (Meridian Dist.), 1870
State Line, 1882
Steen's Creek (Brandon), 1893
Stonewall Factory Mission, 1872

T

Tally Sheek, 1888
Taylorsville, 1871
Terry, 1886
Thomaston, 1871
Tickfaw Mission (Woodville), 1877
Toomsuba Mission, 1870
Topisaw, 1888
Tranquil, 1877

U

Union (Summit), 1873
Utica, 1884

V

Valley (Jackson), 1884
Vancleave, 1882
Vickland (& Sunflower), 1880
Vicksburg Mission, 1871
  Grove Street, 1872
  South Vicksburg, 1889
  Crawford Street, 1891
Vimville, 1895
Vossburg, 1882

W

Wayne, 1870
Waynesboro, 1873
Wesson—North Wesson, 1894
Whitestown (Brookhaven), 1894
White Plains Mission, 1870
Whittington, 1878
Why Not (Meridian), 1892
Wilkinson—North Wilkinson, 1881
Williamsburg, 1871
Wilson, La., 1885
Winans Circuit, 1877
Winchester Mission, 1880

Y

Yazoo
  Stations on Yazoo Railroad, 1883

Z

Zachary, La., 1889
Zion (Brookhaven), 1872

ADVANCE SUBSCRIBERS

MISCELLANEOUS

Cameron, Rev. W. S.	Jackson, Mississippi
Carley, Dr. Henry T.	Satartia, Mississippi
Clark, Dr. Elmer T.	New York, New York
Hamilton, Mrs. Gertrude	Mobile, Alabama
Harmon, Dr. Nolan B.	New York, New York
Hillman, Rev. E. L.	Rocky Mount, North Carolina
Jones, Miss Myrtle	Lyon, Mississippi
Jones, Ransom Julaney, M.D.	Kinston, North Carolina
Jones, Ransom Lanier	Millsaps College, Jackson, Miss.
Hunt, Dr. R. L.	Homewood, Illinois
Peeler, Mrs. James E.	Lake Providence, Louisiana
Smith, Dr. Charles F.	Houston, Texas
Vaughan, D. P.	Rt. 7, Jackson, Miss.

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE

Bowen, Dr. C. A.	Nashville, Tennessee
Caldwell, Rev. J. L.	Honolulu, Hawaii
Chatham, Rev. John W., Jr.	State College, Mississippi
Dawson, Rev. W. J.	Florence, Mississippi
Haigh, Rev. Charles F.	Nashville, Tennessee
Howell, Rev. Clinton T.	Jackson, Mississippi
Jones, Rev. W. B. II	Emory University, Georgia
Langford, Rev. Robert L.	Nashville, Tennessee
Matheny, Rev. R. M.	Hattiesburg, Mississippi
McKeithen, E. E.	Seashore Methodist Assembly
McRaney, Chaplain J. A.	U. S. Army
Morrow, Rev. John H.	Jackson, Mississippi
Oliver, Rev. Algie S.	Meridian, Mississippi
Ridgway, Rev. David T.	Jackson, Mississippi
Sells, Rev. J. W.	Atlanta, Georgia
Smith, Chaplain Aubrey B.	U. S. Army
Smith, Marion L. (5)	Millsaps College, Jackson, Miss.
Thomas, Admiral W. N.	Lake Junaluska, North Carolina
Vaughan, Chaplain H. W. F.	V. A. Hospital, Jackson, Miss.
Wolfe, Rev. Roy	Gulfport, Mississippi

BROOKHAVEN DISTRICT, Rev. L. D. Haughton, *Superintendent*

Adams—Rev. Edwin H. Blumer (3)

Barlow—Mrs. John H. Green, Mrs. Lloyd Magee, Mrs. Virgie Weeks

Bassfield—Rev. L. T. Nelson (3)

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